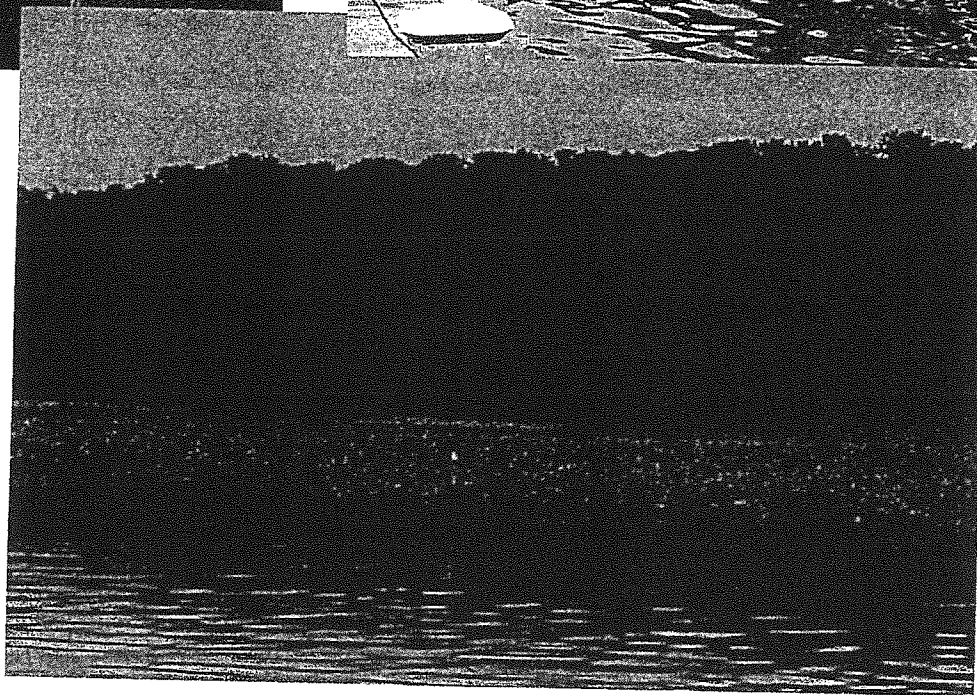
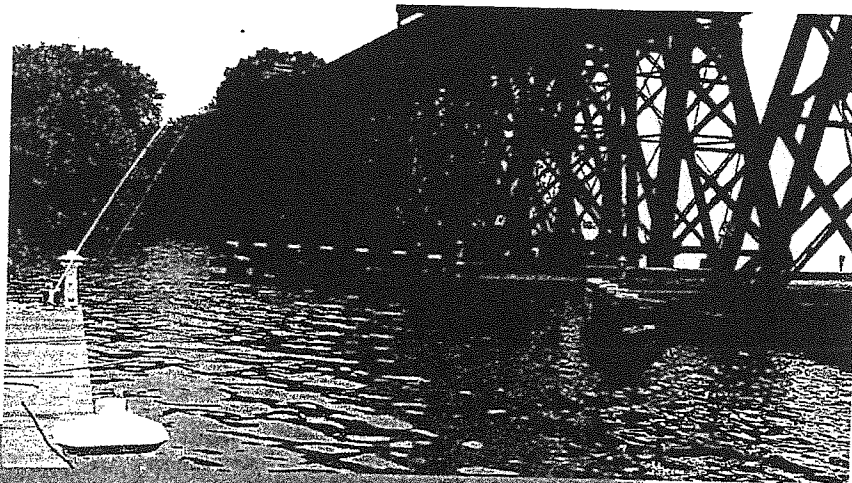
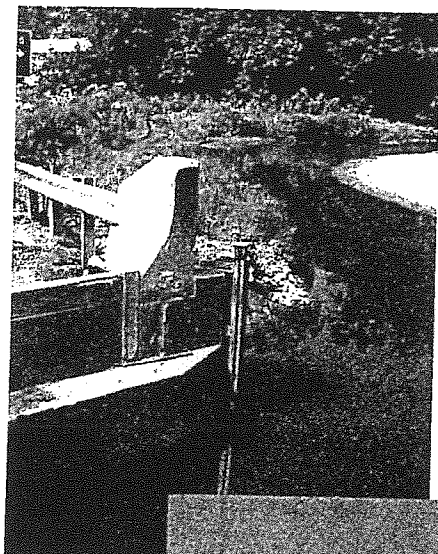


**Prince William County Service Authority  
H.L. Mooney Water Reclamation Facility**

VPDES Permit No. VA0025101

**In-Stream Monitoring Report  
For the Evaluation of Ammonia Effluent  
Limitations**



**GREELEY AND HANSEN**

**Prince William County Service Authority  
H.L. Mooney Water Reclamation Facility  
VPDES Permit No. VA0025101**

**In-Stream Monitoring Report  
For the Evaluation of Ammonia Effluent Limitations**

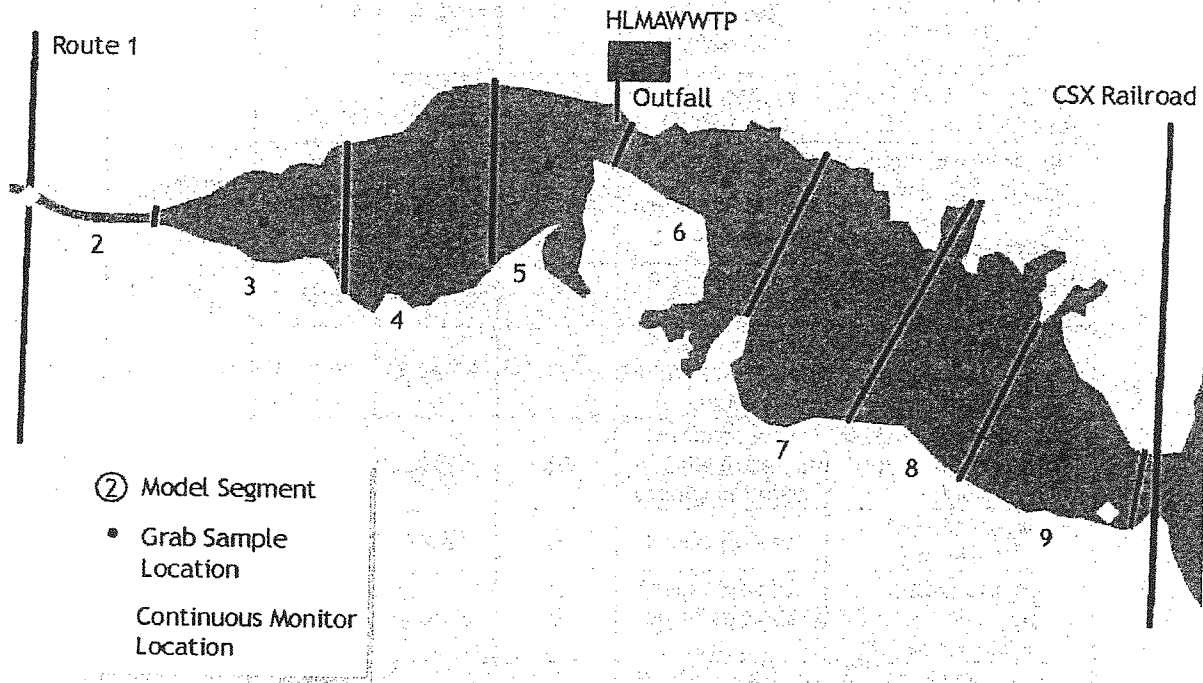
**Greeley and Hansen LLC  
December 1, 2005**

## **1.0 Introduction**

The Prince William County Service Authority (Service Authority) owns and operates the H.L. Mooney Water Reclamation Facility (Mooney WRF, plant). The plant discharges treated effluent to Neabsco Creek, a tributary of the Potomac River. On October 15, 2003, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) reissued the VPDES Permit for the Mooney WRF (2003 permit). The 2003 permit includes effluent limitations for ammonia based on a limited data set from grab samples taken sporadically over a period of several years. Part I.E.11 of the permit calls for instream monitoring for temperature and pH in Neabsco Creek to confirm the 2003 ammonia limits. Previously, the Service Authority utilized the Neabsco Creek Embayment Model developed by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS model) to assist in the development of permit limits; this model was updated and used again for this analysis.

As called for in the VPDES Permit, the Service Authority has conducted the in-stream monitoring study to assist in determining waste load allocations for Neabsco Creek and discharge limits for the Mooney WRF. The instream sampling plan consists of taking twice-monthly grab samples from eight segments matching those of the VIMS model. Four of the segments are upstream of the plant, representing water quality before the Mooney WRF, and four locations are downstream of the plant, representing water quality after the addition of the Mooney WRF effluent. These sampling locations are shown in Figure 1. GPS was used to assure grab samples were taken in the same locations throughout the sampling program. In addition to the biweekly grab-samples, the approved sampling plan called for two continuous monitors to be installed in Neabsco Creek. One located at the Route 1 Bridge upstream of the plant (upstream probe) and one at the CSX Railroad Bridge near the confluence of Neabsco Creek with Neabsco Bay and the Potomac River (downstream probe). After extensive negotiations with CSX and an adjacent marina, the location of the downstream probe was changed from the CSX Bridge to a marina pier as discussed in the *Preliminary Monitoring Report* issued to VDEQ in April 2005. The Instream monitoring was originally scheduled to begin in June 15, 2004 and end February 15, 2005. However, due to the extensive negotiations concerning locations of the probes and other complications, this sampling period was adjusted to November 17, 2004 though September 30, 2005 with VDEQ consent.

Figure 1: Neabsco Creek Sampling Locations



## 2.0 Sampling Results

During the sampling period gaps and anomalies in the data and sampling procedures were noted and corrective action was taken. Data were recorded, tracked and graphed and efforts were made to understand and explain unexpected results. These are discussed below.

### 2.1 Sampling Anomalies

During any extended sampling period anomalies and gaps in data due to equipment outages, weather or other uncontrollable events are to be expected. Several such events were experienced during this sampling program and are outlined below. As problems arose, solutions were developed which aimed to prevent a repetition of the same problem. Table 1 below provides a summary of the sampling anomalies that were experienced during this project. The table shows anomalies and gaps in the continuous monitoring probes that lasted for at least one calendar day. There were gaps in the data which last less than one day, these smaller gaps typically represent the times that the probes' data were being downloaded or during which routine maintenance was being performed.

**Table 1– Sampling Gaps in Continuous Monitoring Probes**

Probe	Start Date	End Date	Days	Reason for Problem	Solution
Upstream	11/20/04	11/30/04	11	Probe failure during long deployment	Decrease interval between probe maintenance and calibration
	1/22/05	2/16/05	26	Probe Failure: no readings	Purchased new probe + 2 backup probes
	3/18/05	3/30/05	13	Flooding upstream caused probe failure	Wait for waters to recede and replace probe - Data Discarded
	4/6/05	4/12/05	7	Programming Error	Reprogrammed and redeployed
	4/13/05	4/18/05	6	Power Failure: Premature battery failure	Start changing batteries on a regular schedule
Downstream	12/3/04	12/28/04	26	Neabsco was partially frozen in vicinity of probe	Ultimately probe was moved from post to dock
	3/31/05	4/4/05	5	Probe Failure	Maintenance Performed
	4/9/05	4/14/05	6	Power Failure: Premature battery failure	Start changing batteries on a regular schedule
	8/10/05	8/16/05	7	Probe Failure: no readings	Replaced Probe with backup

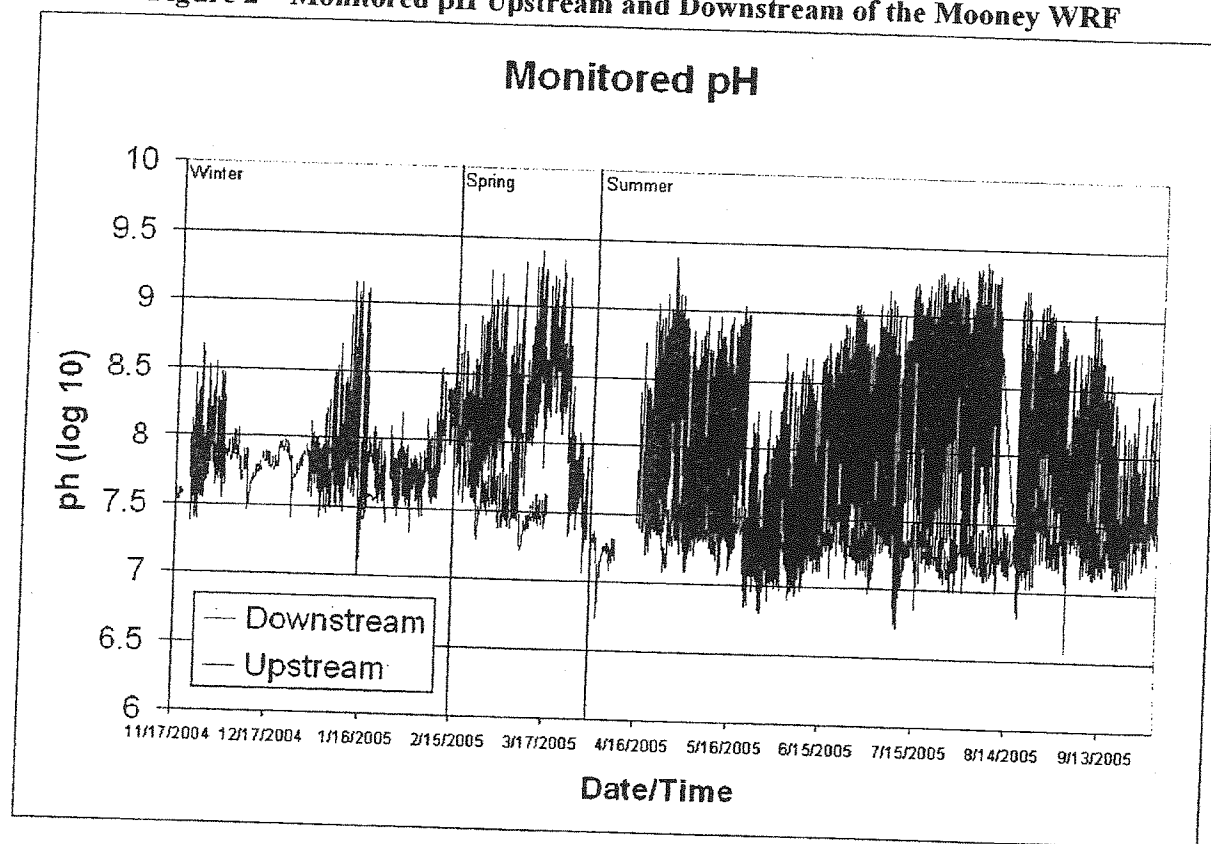
Anomalies or gaps in the data were also present in the grab samples; these typically were a result of access issues to a specific stream-segment. There were times when due to frozen conditions, low tide or very extensive vegetation not all segments could be sampled. The impact of these data gaps is minimal due to the other data that were collected.

The final anomaly that requires discussion is one of sampling time steps. As with all continuous meters these were not truly “continuous” but rather took readings at a prescribed time step. The most common time step throughout the sampling period was one hour, however there are periods during which data were collected at three minute, thirty minute and two hour intervals. During the data analysis it was necessary to have a uniform time step throughout the data record so that averages and percentiles could be calculated correctly. The data were normalized to a two-hour time step (the largest time step). This was done by removing data from time steps that were smaller than two hours; for instance if 30-minute readings were taken at 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, and 2:00 then only the reading from 12:00 and 2:00 were used for the analysis. The removal of data was based strictly on the time it was taken, not on the values of pH or temperature recorded during the step.

## 2.2 pH Results

The pH was monitored upstream and downstream of the plant using continuous monitoring probes as described above. The results of this monitoring are shown in Figure 2 below. The pH was found to be highly variable at the downstream location, where Neabsco Creek meets the Potomac River. It was not uncommon to see pH swings of greater than one standard unit in a single day. An analysis was conducted correlating the pH with the tides and it was found that the high pH readings were coming in from the Potomac River rather than out from Neabsco Creek. In other words, the high pH readings were seen during or just after a high tide. This correlation was seen in other area waterbodies upstream and downstream of Neabsco Creek on the Potomac River. Relatively stable pH values were recorded in the upstream portion of Neabsco Creek which has a much lower tidal influence.

Figure 2 – Monitored pH Upstream and Downstream of the Mooney WRF

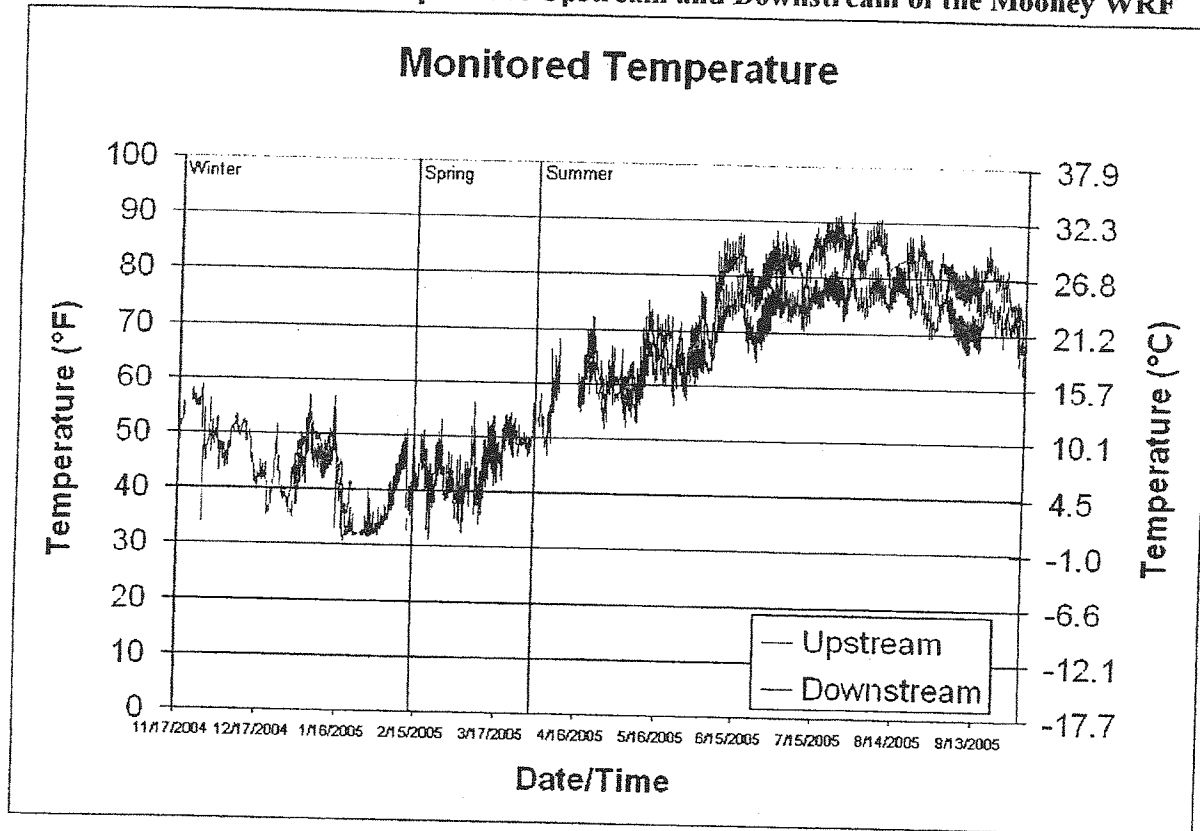


Virginia Water Quality Standards (VWQS) require that state waters (Class I-VI) maintain a pH between 6 and 9 (9 VAC 25-260-50). The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile pH at the downstream monitoring location is 8.93 for the entire monitored period. The unexpectedly high pH in the Potomac is a driving factor for lower Ammonia Wasteload allocations and permit limits, as will be discussed later in this report. A pH TMDL is currently under development for waters of the Potomac. It is the expectation of the Service Authority that once this TMDL is implemented, Ammonia permit relief may be considered, due to the correlation between pH and ammonia toxicity.

### 2.3 Temperature Results

Temperature was found to be much less variable than pH. The data show a trend reflective of the seasonal air temperature. Neabsco Creek, a relatively shallow waterbody, experienced especially high temperatures during summer months. Downstream temperatures above 90°F were recorded for a number of days in July and August. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile temperature for these summer data is 30°C. Refer to Figure 3 below.

Figure 3 – Monitored Temperature Upstream and Downstream of the Mooney WRF



### 2.4 Grab Sample Results

In addition to the continuous pH and temperature results presented in the above graphs, grab samples were collected every two weeks at the locations indicated in Figure 1. These grab sample data were used to confirm the VIMS model results. Grab sample data are included in the appendix of this report.

### 3.0 Data Analysis

H.L. Mooney's current permit is based on a very limited data set collected primarily during daylight hours. As such, the permit uses a number of statistical assumptions as proxies to some of the criteria. Due to the expanded data set collected under this sampling program it is possible to develop a site-specific approach that does not rely on proxy-data. This approach and its results are outlined below.

### 3.1 Instream Chronic Criteria

Chronic Toxicity as defined by VWQS:

(9 VAC 25-260-140) "Chronic toxicity" means an adverse effect that is irreversible or progressive or occurs because the rate of injury is greater than the rate of repair during prolonged exposure to a pollutant. This includes low level, long-term effects such as reduction in growth or reproduction.

This criterion is further defined as:

(9 VAC 25-260-155b) The thirty-day average concentration of total ammonia nitrogen (in mg N/L) where early life stages of fish are present in freshwater shall not exceed, more than once every three years on the average, the chronic criteria below:

$$\text{ChronicCriteriaConcentration} = \left( \frac{0.0577}{1 + 10^{7.688 - pH}} + \frac{2.487}{1 + 10^{pH - 7.688}} \right) \times MIN$$

Where MIN = 2.85 or  $1.45 \times 10^{0.028(25-T)}$ , whichever is less.   
 T = temperature in °C

(9 VAC 25-260-155c) thirty-day average concentration of total ammonia nitrogen (in mg N/L) where early life stages of fish are absent (procedures for making this determination are in subdivisions 1 through 4 of this subsection), in freshwater shall not exceed, more than once every three years on the average, the chronic criteria below:

$$\text{ChronicCriteriaConcentration} = \left( \frac{0.0577}{1 + 10^{7.688 - pH}} + \frac{2.487}{1 + 10^{pH - 7.688}} \right) \times 1.45(10^{0.028(25 - MAX)})$$

MAX = temperature in °C or 7, whichever is greater.

#### 3.1.1 Thirty Day Averages

During the previous permit cycle it was not possible to calculate thirty-day criteria as required by Virginia Water Quality Standards. Therefore as a surrogate to the thirty-day values, the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile temperature and pH values were used to calculate the instream criteria.

As a result of the continuous monitoring that was conducted under this sampling program it was possible to calculate thirty-day average concentrations. The procedure used was as follows; first instantaneous criteria were calculated for each of the time steps in the downstream data record based on the formulas provided in VWQS (above). Second three possible alternatives were considered when calculating the thirty-day criteria:

- a thirty-day rolling average that included the current day and the previous 30 (30bck)
- a thirty-day rolling average that included the current day then the next 30 (30fwd)
- a thirty-day rolling average that included the current day, previous 15 and next 15 days (+/-15)

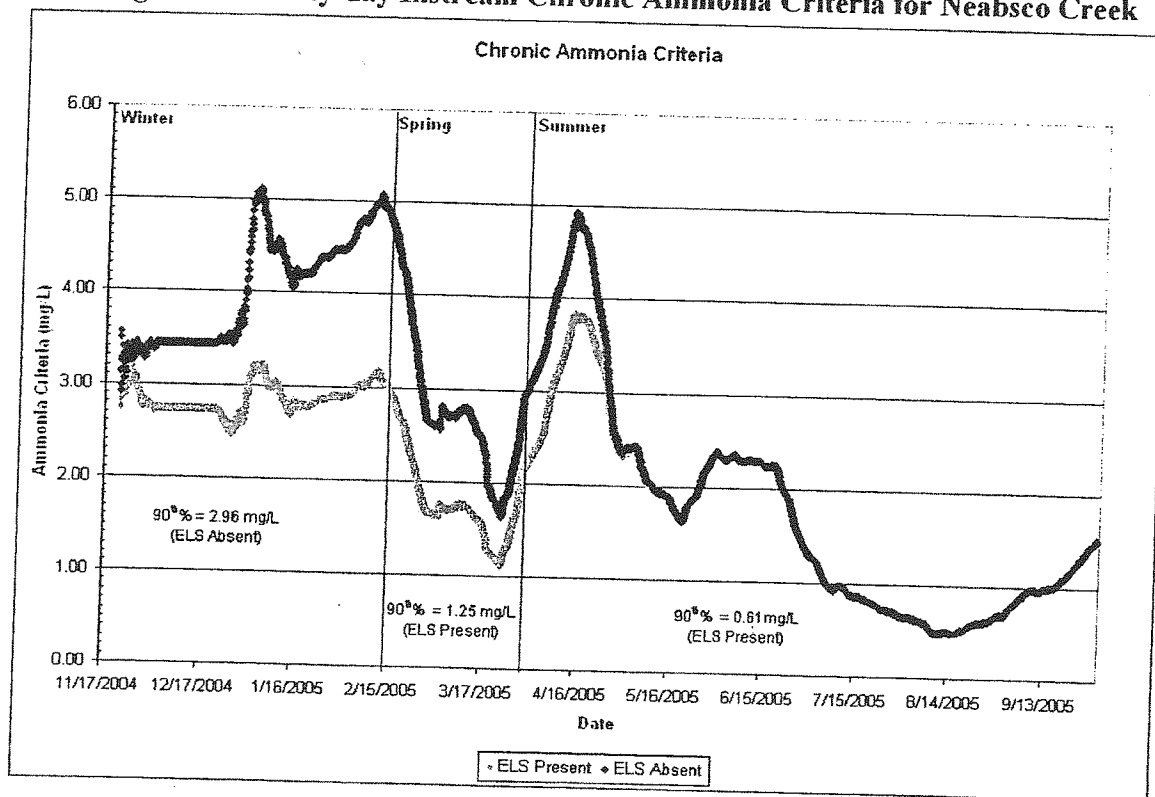
Next, the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile<sup>1</sup> values were calculated for each of the permit periods (winter, spring and summer) and for each of the thirty-day average alternatives (30bck, 30fwd, +/-15days). This procedure was conducted for both the Early Life Stages (ELS) present and absent status. Finally, *the most conservative value for each permit period was chosen as the instream chronic criteria for that permit period, based on the ELS classification.* The results are show in Table 2 below.

**Table 2: 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Chronic Criteria**

Season/Permit Period	Criteria (mg/L)
Winter (November 1-February 14)	2.96
Spring (February 15- March 31)	1.25
Summer (April 1 - October 31)	0.61

For the winter period the most conservative value for instream chronic criteria was found using the 30fwd option. For the spring and summer periods the most conservative values were found using the 30bck option. Figure 4 below shows the calculated criteria for ELS present and absent based on the 30bck option.

**Figure 4 – Thirty-day Instream Chronic Ammonia Criteria for Neabsco Creek**



<sup>1</sup> Throughout this report when referring to ammonia criteria, 90th percentile actually refers to the 10th percentile of data since the lower values are of interest.



### 3.2 Instream Acute Criteria

Acute Toxicity is defined by VWQS as:

(9 VAC 25-260-140) "Acute toxicity" means an adverse effect that usually occurs shortly after exposure to a pollutant. Lethality to an organism is the usual measure of acute toxicity. Where death is not easily detected, immobilization is considered equivalent to death.

This criterion is further defined as:

(9 VAC 25-260-155) The one-hour average concentration of total ammonia nitrogen (in mg N/L) in freshwater shall not exceed, more than once every three years on the average, the acute criteria below [Trout absent]:

$$AcuteCriterionConcentration = \left( \frac{0.411}{1 + 10^{7.204 - pH}} + \frac{58.4}{1 + 10^{pH - 7.204}} \right)$$

The acute criteria must be applied to the segments of Neabsco Creek immediately surrounding the outfall (segments 5 extending to segment 6 in the VIMS model) as this is the location that ammonia concentrations will be the highest due to less dilution. It was therefore necessary to determine the pH in this area to calculate the criteria. The VIMS model, a steady state, hydrogen ion based mixing model allowed the pH to be calculated at the various creek-segments based on the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile pH of the up and downstream continuous monitors and the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of the plant effluent pH. The computed values for segment 6 were used to calculate the instream acute criteria.

Based on the VIMS model runs the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile acute criteria for the specified permit periods is as follows.

**Table 3: 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Acute Criteria**

Season/Permit Period	Criteria (mg/L)	
	18 MGD	24 MGD
Winter (November 1-February 14)	15.96	18.15
Spring (February 15- March 31)	15.19	17.31
Summer (April 1 - October 31)	14.44	16.49

The instream criteria in segment six in large part reflected the relative low pH values present in the plant effluent. Plant effluent data from January 2001 through September 2005 indicates that the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile pH for plant effluent is 7.3.

### 3.3 Wasteload Allocations

Wasteload allocations (WLAs) are determined by multiplying instream criteria by a dilution/decay factor. A site-specific dilution factor has been calculated for chronic wasteload allocations at Neabsco Creek. A default dilution value of 2:1 is used for acute wasteload allocations based on the fact that the acute criteria are defined as one half of the final acute value for a specific toxic pollutant. Decay is then applied on top of the dilution factors to develop the dilution/decay factor.

The 2003 permit recognizes and incorporates a site-specific dilution and decay study conducted by Greeley and Hansen in 1997 titled *Near Field Mixing Analysis and Ammonia Permitting Evaluation for the H.L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Plant* (1997 study). The current evaluation used this study as the basis for developing revised dilution/decay coefficients for the spring and winter permit periods (November 1 through March 31).

The 2003 permit states "Staff's opinion is that nitrification in ambient waters is negligible when temperature is  $\leq 10^{\circ}\text{C}$ ." (Fact Sheet page 7). Based on this, decay was not considered during the winter and spring permit periods. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile temperature for spring data collected at the downstream probe for this period was  $10.4^{\circ}\text{C}$ . During the winter period the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile temperature was found to be  $11.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ . These temperatures were applied to the formulas presented in the 1997 study, resulting in the chronic dilution/decay factors shown in Table 4 below.

**Table 4 - Calculated Chronic Dilution/Decay Factors**

Season/Permit Period	Temperature	18 MGD		24 MGD	
	(90 <sup>th</sup> % - $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	IWC	Dilution/Delay Factor	IWC	Dilution/Delay Factor
Winter (November 1-February 14)	11.6	24.94%	4.01	26.60%	3.76
Spring (February 15- March 31)	10.4	25.91%	3.86	27.70%	3.61
Summer (April 1 - October 31)	30.11	18.90%	5.29	20.16%	4.96

\*Dilution/Decay Factor from 2003 Permit

WLAs were calculated applying the dilution/decay factors to the instream criteria. The results are presented below in Table 5.

**Table 5 - Calculated Wasteload Allocations (mg/L) for 18 and 24 MGD**

Season/Permit Period	18 MGD		24 MGD	
	Acute WLA	Chronic WLA	Acute WLA	Chronic WLA
Winter (November 1-February 14)	31.92	11.86	36.29	11.12
Spring (February 15- March 31)	30.38	4.83	34.61	4.52
Summer (April 1 - October 31)	28.88	3.26	32.98	3.05

### 3.4 Proposed Discharge Limits

Using Version 2.0.4 of the Stats program (WLA.EXE) and the ammonia protocol detailed in Guidance Memo 00-2011, permit limits for the Mooney WRF were calculated from the WLA values. The 1.0 summer limit is required under the Potomac Embayment Standards. The water quality based standards are shown adjacent to the 1.0 requirement. Based on these analyses the proposed permit limits are presented in Table 6 below.

**Table 6 – Proposed Permit Limits**

Season/Permit Period	18 MGD		24 MGD	
	Weekly Limit	Monthly Limit	Weekly Limit	Monthly Limit
Winter (November 1-February 14)	NL	NL	NL	NL
Spring (February 15- March 31)	5.8	4.8	5.4	4.5
Summer (April 1 - October 31)	3.9	3.3 / 1.0	3.7	3.1 / 1.0

### 4.0 Conclusion

The sampling conducted under this program allowed the Prince William County Service Authority to collect sufficient data to develop site-specific permit limits. Under the 2003 permit this was not possible due to the limited nature of the data record. The nearly 10 months of continuous monitoring and biweekly grab samples allowed valid thirty-day chronic criteria to be computed and the VIMS model results to be confirmed. Additionally, the newly expanded data set, which included “around the clock” data (rather than those only collected during warmer day-light periods) allowed for the calculation of revised decay rates that we believe more accurately reflect rates throughout the calendar year and across permit periods.

The newly proposed permit limits are slightly more stringent than the 2003 permit limits but reflect a more scientifically based approach than was possible under the previous permit.

## Appendix A: Neabsco Creek Grab Sample Data

Date	Temperature by Segment (°C)						
	2	4	5	6	7	8	9
09/14/04	22.2					25.2	25.4
09/23/04	19.3					20.7	20.9
09/30/04	19.9	21.8	21.8	21.6	22.3	21.9	21.9
10/21/04	15.0	15.3	15.2	14.8	14.6	14.5	14.5
10/28/04	13.6	14.0	14.9	14.3	14.3	14.3	14.1
11/16/04	9.9	11.4	12.5	9.0	8.9	9.2	9.0
12/02/04	8.3	8.1	10.0	14.6	11.0	9.0	7.9
12/14/04	5.6					5.6	6.3
01/26/05	4.3	3.3	4.7	6.9	1.2	0.5	0.3
04/11/05	15.3	16.4	16.4	16.6	17.0	17.3	16.8
05/26/05	14.9	16.0	16.4	16.2	16.3	16.6	16.5
06/01/05	17.3					21.1	20.9
06/23/05	21.7	23.4	23.1	23.6	24.1	26.2	25.4
07/05/05	23.7	26.6	26.2	26.8	26.8	27.4	27.8
07/21/05	25.5	27.1	27.8	28.1	28.1	29.6	30.6
08/11/05	24.4	25.5	26.1	26.9	28.1	28.7	29.1
08/22/05	24.2	27.2	27.6	28.1	28.3	28.9	28.8
09/06/05	21.1	24.3	24.8	24.7	24.7	25.1	25.1
09/21/05	22.1	23.4	23.9	23.8	24.2	25.2	25.2

Date	pH by Segment (standard units)						
	2	4	5	6	7	8	9
09/14/04	7.8					7.4	7.8
09/30/04	7.1	7.0	7.4	7.8	7.9	7.9	8.0
10/21/04	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.5	7.5
10/28/04	7.2	7.6	7.5	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8
11/16/04	6.9	7.2	7.1	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.3
12/02/04	8.0	7.1	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.2	7.3
12/14/04	7.5					7.3	7.5
01/26/05	7.0	6.8	7.1	7.5	7.2	7.1	7.1
04/11/05	7.4	7.1	7.2	7.2	6.9	7.8	7.6
05/26/05	8.3	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.8	8.1	7.9
06/01/05	8.4					7.6	7.6
06/23/05	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	8.0	9.1	9.2
07/05/05	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.7	8.2
07/21/05	8.0	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.9	9.0
08/11/05	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.5	8.0	9.1	9.4
08/22/05	8.2	7.9	8.1	8.4	8.6	9.0	9.1
09/06/05	7.1	7.5	7.6	7.8	8.1	8.8	8.9
09/21/05	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.6

Note: Due to tidal conditions, some segments cannot be reached at all times. Therefore, there will be some blanks for segments 4 to 7.

Glenn Harvey  
Prince William County Service Authority  
4 County Complex Court  
Raymond Spittle Building  
Woodbridge, VA 22192

April 15, 2008

**Re: Calculation of Proposed Ammonia Limits for H.L. Mooney Water Reclamation Facility  
VPDES Permit No. VA0025101**

Dear Mr. Harvey:

In accordance with your request, we have re-calculated the appropriate ammonia criteria, wasteload allocations, and proposed permit limits for the H.L. Mooney Water Reclamation Facility based on the following Seasons / Permit Periods:

Winter (Nov 1 - Jan 31)  
Spring (Feb 1 - Mar 31)  
Summer (April 1 - Oct 31)

The prior report on this topic, *Instream Monitoring Report for the Evaluation of Ammonia Effluent Limitations, 2005* used a Feb 15 date for the break between Winter and Spring permit periods.

The change in permit period results in small changes to the criteria, wasteload allocations and permit limit calculations in several tables in the report. Below are shown Tables 5 and 6, which detail the Calculated Wasteload Allocations and the Proposed Permit Limits.

Table 5: Calculated Wasteload Allocations (mg/L) for 18 and 24 MGD

Season/ Permit Period	18 MGD		24 MGD	
	Acute WLA	Chronic WLA	Acute WLA	Chronic WLA
Winter (Nov 1 - Jan 31)	31.92	13.55	36.30	12.71
Spring (Feb 1 - Mar 31)	30.38	4.90	34.62	4.58
Summer (April 1 - Oct 31)	28.88	3.23	32.98	3.03

Table 6: Proposed Permit Limits

Season/ Permit Period	18 MGD		24 MGD	
	Weekly Limit	Monthly Limit	Weekly Limit	Monthly Limit
Winter (Nov 1 - Jan 31)	NL	NL	NL	NL

Spring (Feb 1 - Mar 31)	5.9	4.9	5.5	4.6
Summer (April 1 - Oct 31)	3.9	3.2	3.6	3.0

Note that the current analysis did not rerun the mixing model used in the 1997 report, *Near Field Mixing Analysis and Ammonia Permitting Evaluation for the H.L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Plant*, to recalculate dilution and decay factors. The current analysis also did not rerun the VIMS model to recalculate acute criteria, as was done in the 2005 report.

Please let us know if we can provide additional information to you.

Sincerely,

Daniel Schechter, PE  
Associate

TO: Alison Thompson, VDEQ  
FROM: Daniel Schechter  
DATE: June 2, 2009

RE: **Ammonia Limits for H.L. Mooney WRF based on 2005 - 2006 Neabsco Creek pH and Temperature Data**

Please find attached our analysis of the Neabsco Creek pH and Temperature data for the summer period for 2005-2006 and calculations of the Ammonia limits. As discussed, we have combined the 2005 data set collected by PWCSA and the 2006 data set collected by VDEQ.

The 30-day average chronic ammonia criteria was calculated using three methods (forward 30 days, back 30 days, and +/- 15 days) as was done in the prior Monitoring Report. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 30-day average chronic ammonia criteria was calculated, and the most stringent of the 3 methods above was selected to determine the appropriate instream criteria level.

Analysis of the 2005 data set and the 2006 data set are shown in separate columns of the attached spreadsheet, and the combined data is shown in the last column of the spreadsheet. There was a difference in the number of data points for each data set. The 2005 summer data was on a 2 hour interval while the 2006 summer data was on a 15 minute interval. To calculate an accurate 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for the 2005-2006 period, we performed the following data analysis:

1. The 30-day average ammonia criteria were calculated for each timestamp in 2005-2006 using all the data available.
2. The 2006 data was then extracted on a 2 hour interval.
3. The average, 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, and 90<sup>th</sup> percentile were calculated on the combined 2005-2006 data.

The analysis resulted in a 90<sup>th</sup> percentile chronic ammonia criteria (ELS present) of **0.69 mg/L as N**. Using the dilution factors shown in the draft permit of 5.29 (18 MGD) and 4.96 (24 MGD) results in a monthly limit of **3.7 mg/L (18 MGD)** and **3.4 mg/L (24 MGD)**. Using the STATS.EXE program to compute the weekly limit results in weekly limits of **4.4 mg/L (18 MGD)** and **4.1 mg/L (24 MGD)**.

Based on this analysis, we request the following weekly permit limits for ammonia:

	Weekly Limit
18 MGD	4.4 mg/L as N
24 MGD	4.1 mg/L as N

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Daniel Schechter, P.E.  
Associate  
Greeley and Hansen

Calculation of Summer Ammonia Permit Limits

Data Source for Temperature and pH Data						
	2006 VDEQ, 90th percentile pH, Temp	2005 PWCSA, 90th percentile pH and Temp	VDEQ Draft Permit Values	2005 PWCSA Data, 90th percentile of 30 day average	2006 VDEQ Data, 90th percentile of 30 day average	2005 PWCSA + 2006 VDEQ Data, 90th percentile of 30 day average
Chronic Ammonia Criteria	0.29	0.21	0.46	0.61	0.88	0.69
Dilution/Decay Factor (18 MGD)	5.29	5.29	5.29	5.29	5.29	5.29
Dilution/Decay Factor (24 MGD)	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96
Monthly Ammonia Limit (18 MGD)	1.53	1.12	2.43	3.23	4.66	3.65
Monthly Ammonia Limit (24 MGD)	1.43	1.05	2.28	3.03	4.36	3.42
Weekly Ammonia Limit (18 MGD)	1.83	1.34	2.92	3.87	5.59	4.38
Weekly Ammonia Limit (24 MGD)	1.72	1.26	2.74	3.63	5.24	4.11



# VaFWIS - Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

38,36,39.0 -77,16,13.0

is the Search Point

[ Submit ] [ Cancel ]

## Search Point

- ☒ Change to "clicked" map point  
☐ Fixed at 38,36,39.0 - 77,16,13.0

## Show Position Rings

- ☒ Yes ☐ No  
 1 mile and 1/4 mile at the Search Point

## Show Search Area

- ☒ Yes ☐ No  
 2 Search distance miles radius

Search Point is at map center

## Base Map Choices

Topography

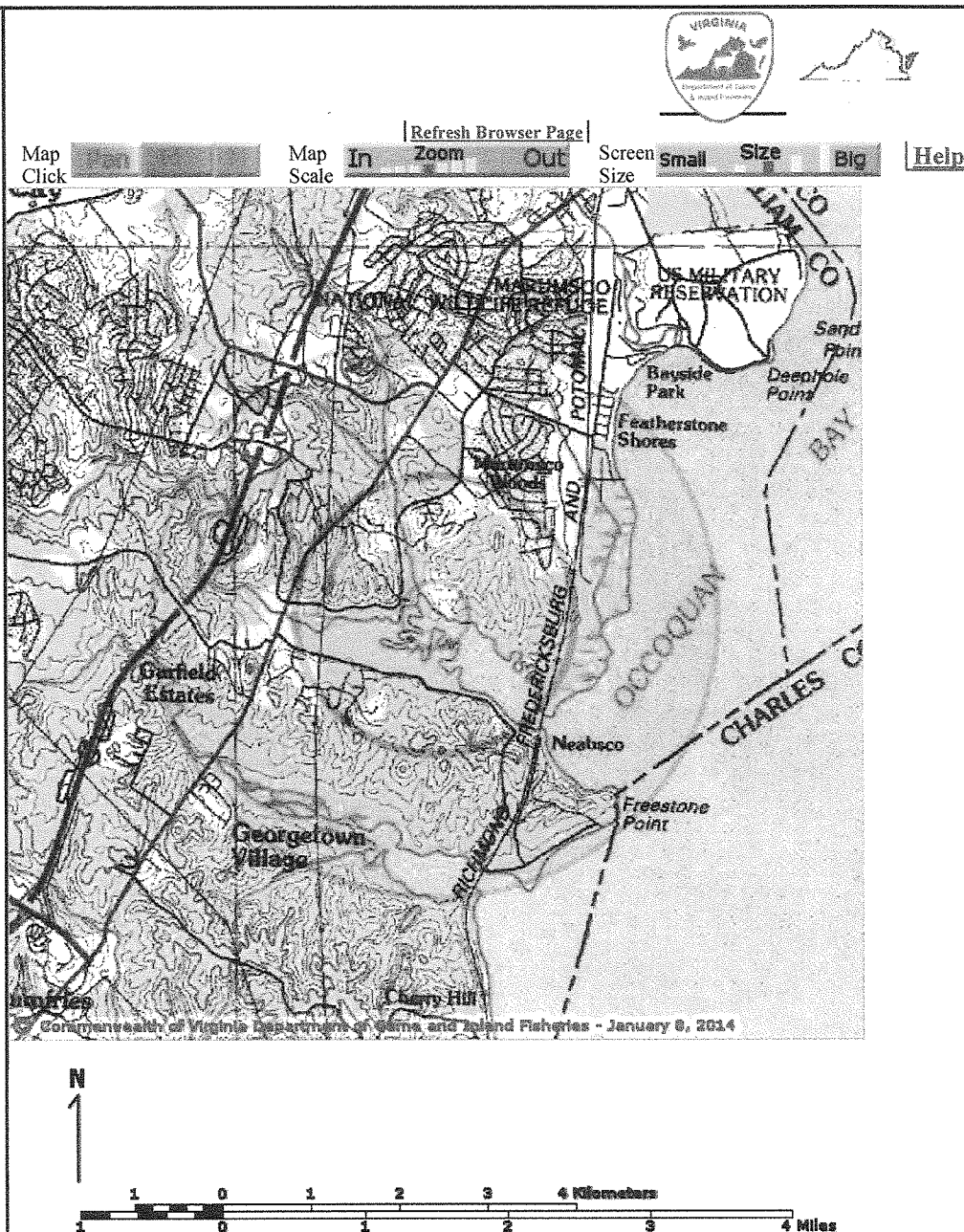
## Map Overlay Choices

Current List: Position, Search

## Map Overlay Legend

Position Rings  
 1 mile and 1/4 mile at the Search Point

2 mile radius  
 Search Area



Attachment 10

are from the United States Department of the Interior, United States Geological Survey.  
Color aerial photography aquired 2002 is from Virginia Base Mapping Program, Virginia  
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Shaded topographic maps are from TOPO! ©2006 National Geographic  
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All other map products are from the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Game and Inland  
Fisheries.

map assembled 2014-01-08 10:48:41 (qa/qc December 5, 2012 8:04 - tn=512929 dist=3218  
I)  
\$poi=38.6108333 -77.2702777

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VaFWS Initial Project Assessment Report Compiled on 1/8/2014, 10:49:17 AM

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Known or likely to occur within a 2 mile radius around point 38,36,39.0 77,16,13.0  
in 153 Prince William County, VA

[View Map of  
Site Location](#)

493 Known or Likely Species ordered by Status Concern for Conservation  
(displaying first 24) (24 species with Status\* or Tier I\*\* or Tier II\*\*)

BOVA Code	Status*	Tier**	Common Name	Scientific Name	Confirmed	Database(s)
010032	FESE	II	<a href="#">Sturgeon, Atlantic</a>	Acipenser oxyrinchus		BOVA
060006	SE	II	<a href="#">Floater, brook</a>	Alasmidonta varicosa		BOVA
030062	ST	I	<a href="#">Turtle, wood</a>	Glyptemys insculpta		Habitat
040129	ST	I	<a href="#">Sandpiper, upland</a>	Bartramia longicauda		BOVA
040293	ST	I	<a href="#">Shrike, loggerhead</a>	Lanius ludovicianus		BOVA
040379	ST	I	<a href="#">Sparrow, Henslow's</a>	Ammodramus henslowii		BOVA
040292	ST		<a href="#">Shrike, migrant loggerhead</a>	Lanius ludovicianus migrans		BOVA
010038	FC	IV	<a href="#">Alewife</a>	Alosa pseudoharengus		BOVA
010045	FC		<a href="#">Herring, blueback</a>	Alosa aestivalis		BOVA
100248	FS	I	<a href="#">Fritillary, regal</a>	Speyeria idalia idalia		BOVA
040093	FS	II	<a href="#">Eagle, bald</a>	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Yes	BOVA,BECAR,Habitat,BAEANests
060029	FS	III	<a href="#">Lance, yellow</a>	Elliptio lanceolata		BOVA
030063	CC	III	<a href="#">Turtle, spotted</a>	Clemmys guttata		BOVA
030012	CC	IV	<a href="#">Rattlesnake, timber</a>	Crotalus horridus		BOVA
040372		I	<a href="#">Crossbill, red</a>	Loxia curvirostra		BOVA
040225		I	<a href="#">Sapsucker, yellow-bellied</a>	Sphyrapicus varius		BOVA
040319		I	<a href="#">Warbler, black-throated green</a>	Dendroica virens		BOVA
040306		I	<a href="#">Warbler, golden-winged</a>	Vermivora chrysoptera		BOVA
040038		II	<a href="#">Bittern, American</a>	Botaurus lentiginosus		Habitat
040052		II	<a href="#">Duck, American black</a>	Anas rubripes		BOVA
040213		II	<a href="#">Owl, northern saw-whet</a>	Aegolius acadicus		BOVA
040105		II	<a href="#">Rail, king</a>	Rallus elegans		BOVA,Habitat
040000		II	<a href="#">Mallard duck</a>	Anas platyrhynchos		BOVA



	Highest TE *	BOVA Code, Status *, Tier **, Common & Scientific Name					
(20700102)	ST	030062	ST	I	<a href="#">Turtle, wood</a>	Glyptemys insculpta	<a href="#">Yes</a>
Farm Creek (20700102)	ST	030062	ST	I	<a href="#">Turtle, wood</a>	Glyptemys insculpta	<a href="#">Yes</a>
Neabsco Creek (20700102)	ST	030062	ST	I	<a href="#">Turtle, wood</a>	Glyptemys insculpta	<a href="#">Yes</a>

Habitat Predicted for Terrestrial WAP Tier I & II Species (3 Species)  
 ordered by Status Concern for Conservation

[View Map of Combined Terrestrial Habitat Predicted for 3 WAP Tier I & II Species Listed Below](#)

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Water Division - Office of Water Permit Support  
629 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Mooney WTP mixing analysis

To: Lyle Anne Collier, NRO

From: M. Dale Phillips, OWPS

Date: February 18, 1997

Copies:

RECEIVED

FEB 20 1997

Northern VA. Region  
Dept. of Env. Quality

I have completed a review of the technical memorandum that addresses the comments we had on the original study and provides additional material. I believe that the 1995 mixing study and this addendum provide estimates of exposure times that are sufficiently reasonable to provide the basis for the calculation of permit limits.

Call if you have questions or comments.

**Division of Engineering  
& Wastewater**

**Richard C. Thoesen, P.E., Director**



H. L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Plant  
P. O. Box 2266 • 1851 Rippon Boulevard • Woodbridge, Virginia 22193-0266 • (703) 670-8101 • Fax (703) 670-8101

January 24, 1997

**RECEIVED**  
JAN 24 1997

Ms. Lyle Anne Collier  
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Northern Virginia Regional Office  
13901 Crown Court  
Woodbridge, VA. 22193

Northern VA. Region  
Dept. of Env. Quality

Subject: Prince William County Service Authority  
H. L. Mooney WWTP NPDES Permit Reissuance

Dear Ms. Collier:

We are pleased to provide the enclosed copies of the technical memorandum "Near Field Mixing Analysis and Ammonia Permitting Evaluation for the H. L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Plant". We believe this document provides a technically sound basis for winter time ammonia permit limits and also shows that the proposed Potomac Embayment Standards for ammonia are fully protective during the summertime.

Based on the analyses the requested instream waste concentrations (IWC) to use in assessing the chronic toxicity potential of substances and whole effluent are as follows:

<u>Mooney WWTP Flow Conditions</u>	<u>IWC</u>
@ 18 MGD (winter)	37.92%
(summer)	39.17%
@ 24 MGD (winter)	40.53%
(summer)	41.84%



Ms. Lyle Anne Collier  
January 24, 1997  
Page 2

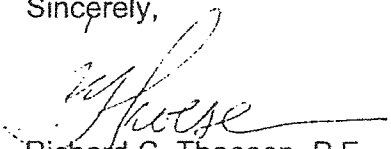
The requested ammonia permit limits (in mg/L as N) for the Mooney WWTP are as follows:

<u>Mooney WWTP Flow Conditions</u>	<u>Monthly Avg</u>	<u>Weekly Avg</u>
18 MGD (winter)	5.35	6.58
(summer)	1.0	-
24 MGD (winter)	4.65	5.72
(summer)	1.0	-

These effluent limits for ammonia do not reflect any additional relief offered by the outcome of our proposed site-specific ammonia study. We will keep you apprised of our progress.

Please call Mark Kennedy (301-817-3700) or Steve Bennett (703-670-8101) if you have questions or if you would like to discuss these issues further.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Thoesen, P.E.  
Director of Engineering & Wastewater

Attachments

cc: Robert Canham  
Steve Bennett  
Mark Kennedy (Greely & Hansen)

MK/RCT/RAC/pa

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY SERVICE AUTHORITY  
BASIC ORDERING AGREEMENT, TASK ORDER NO. 14

*Technical Memorandum*  
*Near Field Mixing Analysis and Ammonia Permitting Evaluation for the*  
*H.L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Plant*

Greeley and Hansen  
January 1997

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Prince William County Service Authority's (PWCSA) H. L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Plant discharges treated effluent to Neabsco Creek, a constricted embayment of the Potomac River. The Plant effluent must meet the requirements of the Potomac Embayment Standards (PES) for ammonia in the summer months (April-October) and water quality-based ammonia standards in the winter months (November-March). Specifically, the PES require a 30-day average effluent concentration of 1 mg/L of ammonia as nitrogen (April through October) and the water quality-based standards are those published in the Virginia Water Quality Standards at VR 680-21-01.14.B.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) developed preliminary permit limits for ammonia and initiated discussions with the PWCSA as part of the VPDES permit reissuance process. The purpose of this technical memorandum is to assist the PWCSA in developing appropriate water quality-based permit limits for ammonia and to address updates to the Neabsco Creek dilution model, near-field mixing and an evaluation of ambient pH and temperature data used in the ammonia permitting process for the Mooney WWTP.

**2. Neabsco Creek Dilution Modeling - Update**

A report on the first phase of the dilution study was submitted to the VDEQ for review and provided a technical basis for ammonia permit limitations necessary in the Mooney WWTP permit (Greeley and Hansen and Limno-Tech, Inc., 1995). The report predicted dilution rates for the Mooney WWTP effluent in the various Neabsco Creek Model sections, the times of exposure for a drifting organism and the length of time necessary to flush and replace the receiving water in the vicinity of the Mooney WWTP outfall.

VDEQ reviewed the report and made the following observations (M. Dale Phillips, 1996):

- a. The Neabsco Creek Model assumes complete mix in each of the model segments and therefore cannot be used to define the extent of acute physical mixing area (PMA).

- b. The hydraulic behavior of the system [Neabsco Creek] is well known because the model was calibrated and verified using dye study results.
- c. Hydraulic flushing time and drifting organism exposure predictions are a valid means of defining the duration of exposure for chronic toxicity.
- d. Flushing time in the lower segments of Neabsco Creek [nearer to the Potomac River] need to be included in the evaluation before approval of the results for chronic toxicity may be made.

VDEQ staff requested that the Dale City WWTP flow be considered as a pollutant source equivalent to the Mooney WWTP. Model runs were subsequently run incorporating these additional factors in order to fully address VDEQ concerns.

## **2.1 Near-Field Mixing Evaluation**

The purpose of the near-field mixing evaluation is to confirm that rapid and complete mixing takes place within model segments 5 and 6 of Neabsco Creek and to establish, if possible, the extent of an acute physical mixing area.

The following elements are incorporated into a CORMIX (version 3.1) analysis of the near-field mixing.

- Maintaining the Mooney WWTP flows at 18 and 24 MGD
- Varying mannings "n" factor (for friction) to assess the effect of aquatic vegetation on mixing characteristics.
- Summer (7Q10=0.0 MGD) and winter (7Q10=1.03 MGD) ambient upstream flow
- Dale City WWTP flow equal to 6 MGD
- Mixing plume buoyancy due to temperature effects
- Additional inputs necessary for the model as shown in Attachment 1

The predicted distance and travel time to achieve complete mixing for each scenario is as follows:

Complete Mixing Distance and Travel Time  
for H.L. Mooney WWTP Discharge to Neabsco Creek.

Seasonal and tidal conditions	Mooney @ 18 MGD		Mooney @ 24 MGD	
	Distance (meters)	Time (hours)	Distance (meters)	Time (hours)
Summer				
No tidal movement	131	1.3	235	2.4
With tidal movement	70	0.8	70	0.6
Winter				
No tidal movement	185	5.9 <sup>(1)</sup>	70	0.9
With tidal movement	69	0.9	77	1.0

Note: (1) This predicted travel time is inconsistent with other results and may be overestimated.

The following conclusions are based on the results of the near-field simulations:

- a. For both summer and winter conditions, CORMIX3 confirms that the Mooney WWTP effluent completely mixes across Neabsco Creek within a maximum distance of 69 to 235 meters, depending on the season, tidal conditions and effluent flow rate.
- b. The predicted maximum complete mix distance is less than the length of the VIMS Neabsco Creek Model segments 5 and 6, which are 360 and 490 meters respectively. Therefore, the VIMS Neabsco Creek Model complete mix assumption is valid.
- c. The relationship between the travel times are generally correct (except for one winter simulation noted above) and the times are less than or equal to one hour when tidal movement is considered.
- d. Varying Mannings "n" friction factor had little or no effect on the near field mixing characteristics. Therefore, the presence of aquatic vegetation should not significantly affect mixing characteristics or the extent of the physical mixing area.

## 2.2 Updated Neabsco Creek Dilution Analysis

The Neabsco Creek Model was applied to evaluate dilution in Neabsco Creek in the previous report. This model is rerun here to respond to VDEQ comments and incorporates the following changes:

- Maintaining the Mooney WWTP flows at 18 and 24 MGD.
- Separate summer (7Q10 = 0.0 MGD) and winter conditions (7Q10 = 1.03 MGD) as provided by VDEQ.
- Dilution with settling and without settling.
- Dale City WWTP flow equal to 6.0 MGD with the same pollutant concentrations as the Mooney WWTP (i.e. no dilution from the Dale City flow).

The results of the model are presented in Table 1 (Dilution Rates) and in Table 2 (Exposure Times). These updated results do not indicate as much dilution available as in the previous model runs. They do, however, provide a basis for dilution for both the Dale City and Mooney WWTPs based on drifting organism exposure.

### 2.3 Drifting Organism Exposure Analysis for Chronic Toxicity Evaluation

Neabsco Creek is a tidally flushed, constricted embayment of the Potomac River. The creek is neither free flowing nor a deep tidal water and therefore falls outside the normal pattern described in VDEQ guidance. A drifting organism exposure time of two days (instead of four days) was used in accordance with VDEQ guidance to judge the acceptability of an effluent with regard to chronic toxicity. This approach was discussed in detail in the previous report (Greeley and Hansen and Limno-Tech, Inc., 1995).

VDEQ requested in their review of the previous report, that the Dale City WWTP flow be included in the model as a pollutant source equal to the Mooney WWTP. The updated Neabsco Creek dilution analysis incorporates this recommendation. However, this modification results in the model describing not only the Mooney WWTP impact but the impacts of the Dale City WWTP as well. Since there are no other point source discharges to Neabsco Creek, the updated model results provide a basis for a wasteload allocation for the entire water body. As such, it is appropriate to consider a drifting organism exposure to chronic toxicity for a full four (4) days rather than two (2) days. The safety factor to account for additional discharges need not be maintained since both dischargers to Neabsco Creek have been incorporated into the same model.

The method to calculate the average effluent exposure of a drifting organism is to multiply the dilution factor in each segment (in terms of percent effluent) by the time the organism is resident in that segment. The products of segment dilutions and exposure times are then added and the sum is divided by the cumulative exposure for the organism -- held to four days for the purposes of chronic toxicity evaluations. The calculations for the Mooney WWTP are in Attachment 2 and the results are as follows:

Average Four-Day Effluent Exposure for a Drifting Organism (as percent effluent)		
Season	Mooney @ 18 MGD	Mooney @ 24 MGD
Apr - Oct	39.17% <sup>(1)</sup>	41.84% <sup>(2)</sup>
Nov - Mar	37.92% <sup>(1)</sup>	40.53% <sup>(3)</sup>

Notes: (1) Four-day exposure terminates in model segment 9.

(2) Four-day exposure terminates in model segment 10.

(3) Four-day exposure terminates just inside model segment 11.

The 4-day exposure in each scenario begins in model segment 5 and terminates in model segments 9, 10 or 11 depending on the ambient conditions and WWTP flow. This means that the drifting organism, beginning at segment 5 (the Mooney discharge) will drift to segments 9, 10 or 11 in four days. The exposures shown above (as percent effluent) are for conservative substances which do not settle or decay and are appropriate for whole effluent toxicity testing evaluations. However, ammonia is not a conservative substance and undergoes decay as it is converted into different nitrogen forms. A first order decay rate coefficient of  $0.2 \text{ day}^{-1}$  was derived by the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences (VIMS) and used in the original Neabsco Creek model to predict this ammonia decay. This original decay rate coefficient was based on an ambient temperature of  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$  but can be adjusted to other temperatures using VDEQ guidance (OWRM Guidance memo No. 93-015, Amendment No. 1 -- Mixing Zones, page 18).

VDEQ policy calls for consideration of ammonia decay only in the summer months but not in the winter. The reason for the policy is that ammonia decay is reduced with temperature. However, VDEQ guidance also bases the water quality standard for ammonia on the 90th percentile temperature, which for Neabsco Creek is  $18.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The ammonia decay rate coefficient has been reduced here for the 90th percentile temperature of the winter months. The combination of conservative factors including the biased high pH is reason to consider inclusion of a temperature adjusted decay as a reasonable basis for permit calculation. Adjusting the coefficient to the 90th percentile temperature of Neabsco Creek (i.e.  $18.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) results in a new coefficient of  $0.1824 \text{ day}^{-1}$ . Applying this rate of decay for the four days of exposure would reduce the effluent exposure for ammonia as follows:

Average Four-Day Ammonia Exposure for a Drifting Organism (as percent effluent)				
Season	Mooney @ 18 MGD		Mooney @ 24 MGD	
Apr - Oct	IWC 18.89%	Dilution Rate <b>5.29</b>	IWC 20.18%	Dilution Rate <b>4.96</b>
Nov - Mar	18.28%	<b>5.47</b>	19.54%	<b>5.12</b>

These ammonia exposure concentrations should be used to calculate the ammonia wasteload allocation for the Mooney WWTP.

### 3. Development of Ammonia Wasteload Allocations and Permit Limitations

The wasteload allocation can be calculated by dividing the water quality standard by the effective dilution factor expressed as percent effluent. These latter dilution factors have been determined in the previous section. The selection of the appropriate water quality standard for ammonia depends on the ambient pH and temperature of the receiving water.

#### 3.1 Selection of ambient pH and temperature values and the resulting ammonia water quality standard

Several sets of pH and temperature data have been identified in the permitting process by VDEQ. These data are from the Mooney WWTP effluent, Neabsco Creek 50 feet above the Mooney WWTP outfall, Neabsco Creek at the Route 1 bridge and midway into Neabsco Bay. Other pH data useful to the permitting process are at Belmont Bay and at stations in the nearby Potomac River shown in Figure 1. VDEQ guidance requires the use of 90th percentile data to evaluate ammonia toxicity. The 90th percentiles of available pH data are as follows:

<u>Data Source</u>	<u>Number of Data Points</u>	<u>90th Percentile pH Value</u>
Mooney WWTP Effluent	1645	7.23
Neabsco Creek 50' above the Mooney WWTP Outfall	234	7.83
Neabsco Creek @ Route 1	141	7.5
Neabsco Bay	214	9.7
Belmont Bay	206	9.9
Woodrow Wilson Bridge (Potomac)	33,684	8.0
Dogue Creek (Potomac)	579	8.1
Indian Head, MD (Potomac)	1176	8.2
Quantico Creek (Potomac)	757	8.1
Aquia Creek (Potomac)	585	8.0

From the pH data available, the following observations and conclusions should be made:

- a. Potomac River 90th percentile pHs are consistent both above and below Neabsco Bay.

The data indicate mild pH fluctuations depending on the time of year, with higher pHs measured in the summer months due to increased photosynthetic activity. The Woodrow Wilson Bridge Station was measured continuously from 1989-1992 and demonstrated the diurnal pattern of pH fluctuations due to photosynthetic activity.

- b. Neabsco and Belmont Bays, both adjacent to the Occoquan Bay, have the highest 90th percentile pHs.

Neabsco and Belmont Bays are shallow embayments of the Potomac River. Their shallow depth permits higher temperatures and more light penetration to support aquatic plant life. The pH swings in these waterbeds are reflective of this increased photosynthetic activity. Clearly, if the ambient pH of these bays were consistently above 9.0, the aquatic life in these and adjacent water bodies would be adversely affected. The highest pH values typically occur in the early to mid-afternoon which is when sampling usually occurs. If pH sampling were continuous, including night and early morning readings, the 90th percentile values for these bays would be shown to be lower. This high pH bias adds a level of conservatism to the analysis of the data.

- c. Neabsco Creek 90th percentile pHs are lower than the 90th percentile pHs in the embayments and the Potomac River.

The low dilution predicted in the Neabsco Creek (i.e. the high percentage of effluent in the creek) indicates that effluent characteristics will influence the creek more than the ambient water available from the incoming stream and tidal movements. The pH data bears this out with the WWTP effluents effectively buffering the ambient Neabsco Creek pH. The Neabsco Creek 90th percentile pH is 7.83 (not greater than 9.0 as in Neabsco Bay) and is greatly influenced by the effluents of the Dale City and Mooney WWTPs due to the minimal dilution available. As the Mooney WWTP expands and increases its flow to 18 and 24 MGD, the influence of the treated effluents on pH will also increase. It is important to note that photosynthetically induced diurnal pH fluctuation also occurs in Neabsco Creek, but with a lower amplitude due to the buffering effect of the WWTP effluents. However, it can be expected that the Neabsco Creek pH of 7.83 is also biased high due to the time of sampling.

The ambient pH and temperature selected to determine the ammonia water quality standard should reflect the conditions of the water body in question. Since the drifting organism will remain within Neabsco Creek for almost the entire four days, the chronic ammonia water quality standard, which is applied as a four-day exposure, should be based on the available Neabsco Creek pH and temperature data. Therefore the Neabsco Creek pHs (7.82 for summer and 7.86 for winter) and temperatures (27°C for summer and 18.8°C for winter) can be used to calculate the chronic ammonia criteria.

The higher pH values of Neabsco Bay should not be used to calculate the chronic ammonia criteria for the following reasons:

See p 7a & 7b  
for the derivation of these  
values  
Jac



**Calculating the Exposure Concentration for a Drifting Organism in Neabsco Bay**  
*(Temperature Data from G&H, 2005; Other information is taken directly from G&H, 1997)*

**Winter Conditions (11/1 to 2/14), Mooney @ 18 MGD**

Segment	Dilution	%Effluent (1/dilution)	Exposure Time (days)	Cumulative Exposure (days)	Exposure Product
5	1.4	0.714	0.19	0.19	0.136
6	1.6	0.625	0.47	0.66	0.294
7	2	0.500	0.28	0.94	0.140
8	2.7	0.370	1.2	2.14	0.444
9	3.7	0.270	1.86	4	0.503
Total					1.517

Effluent Exposure	37.92%
Temperature (degrees C)	11.6
Ammonia Decay	0.1050
Ammonia Exposure	24.91%
Dilution Ratio	4.01

**Winter Conditions (11/1 to 2/14), Mooney @ 24 MGD**

Segment	Dilution	%Effluent (1/dilution)	Exposure Time (days)	Cumulative Exposure (days)	Exposure Product
5	1.3	0.769	0.16	0.16	0.123
6	1.4	0.714	0.38	0.54	0.271
7	1.7	0.588	0.23	0.77	0.135
8	2.3	0.435	0.97	1.74	0.422
9	3.1	0.323	1.9	3.64	0.613
10	5.3	0.189	0.28	3.92	0.053
11	19.8	0.051	0.08	4	0.004
Total					1.621

Effluent Exposure	40.53%
Temperature (degrees C)	11.6
Ammonia Decay	0.1050
Ammonia Exposure	26.63%
Dilution Ratio	3.76

**Spring Conditions (2/15 to 3/31), Mooney @ 18 MGD**

Segment	Dilution	%Effluent (1/dilution)	Exposure Time (days)	Cumulative Exposure (days)	Exposure Product
5	1.4	0.714	0.19	0.19	0.136
6	1.6	0.625	0.47	0.66	0.294
7	2	0.500	0.28	0.94	0.140
8	2.7	0.370	1.2	2.14	0.444
9	3.7	0.270	1.86	4	0.503
Total					1.517

Effluent Exposure	37.92%
Temperature (degrees C)	10.4
Ammonia Decay	0.0955
Ammonia Exposure	25.88%
Dilution Ratio	3.86

**Spring Conditions (2/15 to 3/31), Mooney @ 24 MGD**

Segment	Dilution	%Effluent (1/dilution)	Exposure Time (days)	Cumulative Exposure (days)	Exposure Product
5	1.3	0.769	0.16	0.16	0.123
6	1.4	0.714	0.38	0.54	0.271
7	1.7	0.588	0.23	0.77	0.135
8	2.3	0.435	0.97	1.74	0.422
9	3.1	0.323	1.9	3.64	0.613
10	5.3	0.189	0.28	3.92	0.053
11	19.8	0.051	0.08	4	0.004
Total					1.621

Effluent Exposure	40.53%
Temperature (degrees C)	10.4
Ammonia Decay	0.0955
Ammonia Exposure	27.67%
Dilution Ratio	3.61

## Calculating the Exposure Concentration for a Drifting Organism in Neabsco Bay

*(Temperature Data from G&H, 2005; Other information is taken directly from G&H, 1997)*

### Formulas Used

**Effluent\_Exposure** = Exposure\_Product / Cumulative\_Exposure

**Ammonia\_Decay** =  $0.2 \times 1.08^{(T - 20)}$  where T = Temp in deg C

**Ammonia\_Exposure** = Effluent\_Exposure  $\times e^{(-\text{Ammonia\_Decay} \times \text{Cumulative\_Exposure})}$

**Dilution\_Ratio** = 1 / Ammonia\_Exposure

### References:

Greeley and Hansen, 1997. "Near Field Mixing Analysis and Ammonia Permitting Evaluation for the H.L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Plant"

Greeley and Hansen, 2005. "Prince William County Service Authority, H.L. Mooney Water Reclamation Facility, VPDES Permit No. VA0025101, In-Stream Monitoring Report for the Evaluation of Ammonia Effluent Limitations."

POTOMAC EMBAYMENTS  
WASTELOAD ALLOCATION STUDY  
FINAL REPORT, VOLUME I

Prepared for  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
State Water Control Board  
2111 North Hamilton Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Prepared by  
Northern Virginia Planning District Commission  
7630 Little River Turnpike, Suite 400  
Annandale, Virginia 22003  
(Staff Technical Analysis)

With Technical Assistance Provided by  
Camp Dresser & McKee

June 12, 1987

POTOMAC EMBAYMENTS WASTELOAD ALLOCATION STUDY  
FINAL REPORT, VOLUME I:  
Study Methodology, Water Quality Goals,  
and Loading and Debugging of Computer Models

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The initial stages of the Potomac Embayments Wasteload Allocation Study lay the groundwork for the technical analyses that are performed to develop recommended effluent limits for point source discharges to seven Virginia embayments of the Potomac Estuary. First, modeling tools to be used in the study are obtained and tested. Next, a regionally consistent methodology for wasteload allocation analysis is developed. Finally, water quality goals are developed for use as evaluation criteria in screening wasteload allocation alternatives in later stages of the study.

Embayment hydrodynamics and water quality models developed by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) are obtained from VIMS and loaded onto the mainframe computer system used by NVPDC. The computer codes are modified as necessary to ensure successful operation on the system. The model codes are further modified to enhance their capability and, in several cases, to correct minor errors.

The regionally consistent methodology established for the study defines the modeling approach and the general procedures for establishing design conditions, defining water quality goals, performing sensitivity studies, and completing final wasteload allocation analyses. As part of the methodology, specific data for computer model application are developed, including nonpoint loadings, Potomac main stem boundary conditions, and design values for tidal ranges, streamflows, water temperature, and solar radiation.

The water quality goals established for the study focus primarily on concentrations of dissolved oxygen and chlorophyll-a. The selected dissolved oxygen goals are the Virginia state water quality standards of 5.0 mg/L daily average and 4.0 mg/L daily minimum. Chlorophyll-a goals are developed based on the concept of no further deterioration of existing conditions, which is consistent with the State's antidegradation policy. Specific chlorophyll-a goals are established for each embayment, primarily based on computer model simulations that show the impacts of point source loadings and Potomac main stem boundary conditions on chlorophyll-a concentrations throughout the embayment.

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## REFERENCES

## APPENDICES

APPENDIX A - Load/Debug VIMS Embayment Models

APPENDIX B - Model Modifications

APPENDIX C - Minutes of Public and Northern Virginia  
Embayment Standards Technical Advisory  
Committee Meetings

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- APPENDIX D - Comments on Methodology from the Potomac Strategy Technical Subcommittee, the State Water Control Board Staff, and the Northern Virginia Embayment Standards Technical Advisory Committee
- APPENDIX E - Comments on Goals from the Potomac Strategy Technical Subcommittee, the State Water Control Board Staff, and the Northern Virginia Embayment Standards Technical Advisory Committee
- APPENDIX F - Computer Model Source Codes, Sample Input Files, and Sample Output Files (bound separately)

POTOMAC EMBAYMENTS  
WASTELOAD ALLOCATION STUDY  
FINAL REPORT, VOLUME II

Prepared for

Commonwealth of Virginia  
State Water Control Board  
2111 North Hamilton Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Prepared by

Northern Virginia Planning District Commission  
7630 Little River Turnpike, Suite 400  
Annandale, Virginia 22003

(Staff Technical Analysis)

With Technical Assistance Provided by  
Camp Dresser & McKee

June 12, 1987

POTOMAC EMBAYMENTS  
WASTELOAD ALLOCATION STUDY  
FINAL REPORT, VOLUME III

Prepared for

Commonwealth of Virginia  
State Water Control Board  
2111 North Hamilton Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Prepared by

Northern Virginia Planning District Commission  
7630 Little River Turnpike  
Annandale, Virginia 22003

(Staff Technical Analysis)

With Technical Assistance Provided by

Camp Dresser & McKee

June 30, 1988



POTOMAC EMBAYMENTS WASTELoad ALLOCATION STUDY  
FINAL REPORT, VOLUME III:

Sensitivity Studies and Final Analyses for the  
Four Mile Run, Hunting Creek, and Neabsco Creek Embayments

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the regionally consistent methodology presented in the Volume I final report, NVPDC and CDM conduct sensitivity studies and final analyses for the Four Mile Run, Hunting Creek, and Neabsco Creek embayments. Modeling tools developed by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science are used to predict the embayment water quality impacts of alternative treatment plant wasteloads. The modeling results are compared to water quality goals developed and presented in the Volume I final report to determine appropriate treatment plant effluent limits.

The sensitivity studies predict the extent to which embayment water quality would be affected by changes in parameters such as treatment plant loading, Potomac main stem boundary conditions, benthic flux rates, and treatment plant discharge location. After comparing the modeling results to the appropriate water quality goals, several different wasteload allocation alternatives for each embayment are selected for further analysis.

For the alternatives selected in the sensitivity studies, the final analyses include a comparison of wastewater treatment costs and of pollutant exchange between the embayment and the Potomac main stem. In addition, analyses of seasonal treatment limits for phosphorus and unoxidized nitrogen are conducted. The analysis of seasonal phosphorus removal is limited by a lack of data; as a result, no recommendations are made regarding the feasibility of seasonal phosphorus limits. The analyses for the Hunting Creek and Four Mile Run embayments incorporate the results of a recently completed Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments study of dissolved oxygen in the upper Potomac Estuary.

Based on the sensitivity studies and final analyses, the following effluent limits for dissolved oxygen (DO), 5-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD5), total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN), and total phosphorus (TP) are recommended for protection of embayment water quality:

<u>EMBAYMENT</u>	<u>TREATMENT PLANT</u>	<u>PLANT FLOW (MGD)</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED EFFLUENT CONCENTRATION (mg/l)</u>			
			<u>DO</u>	<u>CBOD5</u>	<u>TKN</u>	<u>TP</u>
Four Mile Run	Arlington	40.0	6.0	10.0	---	1.00
Hunting Creek	Alexandria	54.0	7.6*	3.0	---	1.00
			7.6*	-or- 10.0	1.0**	1.00
Neabsco Creek	Dale City #1	4.0	6.0	10.0	---	1.00
	Dale City #8	2.0	6.0	10.0	---	1.00
	→ Mooney	20.0	6.0	10.0	---	1.00

\*April 1 through October 31 only; limit of 6.0 mg/L November 1 through March 31

\*\*April 1 through October 31 only; no TKN limit November 1 through March 31

To protect the main stem of the Potomac Estuary, an interim total phosphorus limit of 0.18 mg/l is regionally accepted as presented in the Interim Control Policy of the 1986 Supplement to the Metropolitan Washington 208 Plan. Therefore, at the present time, the more restrictive constraint on total phosphorus is the 0.18 mg/l limit for protection of the main stem of the Potomac. As indicated in the 208 Plan Supplement, long-term Potomac studies now under way will better define the total phosphorus limits required for protection of the Potomac main stem.

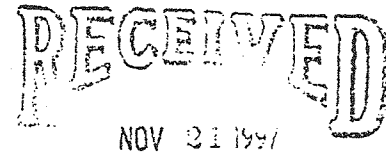
Division of Engineering  
& Wastewater

Richard C. Thoesen, P.E., Director



H. L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Plant  
P.O. Box 2266 • 1851 Rippon Boulevard • Woodbridge, Virginia 22193-0266 • (703) 670-8101 • Fax (703) 590-5877

November 21, 1997



Mr. Thomas A. Faha  
Department of Environmental Quality  
Northern Virginia Regional Office  
13901 Crown Court  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193

Northern VA. Region  
Dept. of Env. Quality

Re: H. L. Mooney AWWTP - Draft VPDES Permit VA0025101

Dear Mr. Faha:

On behalf of the Service Authority, I thank you for meeting with us on November 19, 1997, to discuss our concerns with the Draft VPDES Permit. The purpose of this letter is to document our remaining concerns and to support our request that the permit be revised.

Weekly Average Ammonia

We disagree with the application of the 1.5 ratio utilized for the weekly average. Although this empirical ratio is normally used for a weekly standard, it is based on a monthly water quality standard. The ammonia nitrogen standard for the H. L. Mooney AWWTP is a voluntary standard and is technology based, not water quality based. Accordingly, the weekly standard should be water quality based and doing so will fully protect the tributary. The water quality standards are as follows:

1. The toxicity based evaluations included in the permit Fact Sheet as Attachment 13.
2. The wasteload allocation evaluations conducted for Neabsco Creek by NVPDC dated June 30, 1988 (copy attached). These studies show that the dissolved oxygen standard will be set at ammonia discharges of 20 mg/l.

Mr. Thomas A. Faha  
November 21, 1997  
Page 2

Evaluation of the foregoing studies shows that toxicity and dissolved oxygen standards for ammonia as nitrogen will be met with the limits recommended in Attachment 13 as follows:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Weekly Average - mg/l</u>	
	<u>18 mgd</u>	<u>24 mgd</u>
Ammonia as nitrogen (April - October)	5.0	4.7

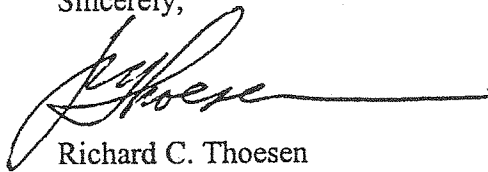
We request that these limits be included in the draft permit.

Metals Monitoring

We also discussed analyses for metals monitoring (Appendix A) during our November 19, 1997 meeting. The Service Authority's position is that only analytical methods included in 40 CFR Part 136 or approved by the USEPA Regional Administrator with the concurrence of the DEQ Director may be used. We disagree, therefore, with DEQ's intention to include unapproved 200 and 1600 series analytical methods in our VPDES permit.

We appreciate your time and consideration of our comments and the opportunity to review the draft permit.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Thoesen  
Director of Engineering & Wastewater

Attachment

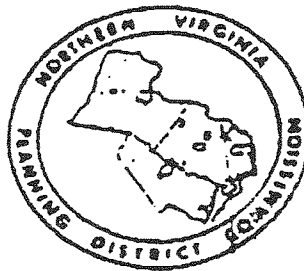
cc: Steve Bennett  
Bob Canham  
Ron Bizzarri

RCT/lis

# **POTOMAC EMBAYMENTS WASTELOAD ALLOCATION STUDY**

**FINAL REPORT, VOLUME III:**

**SENSITIVITY STUDIES AND FINAL ANALYSES  
FOR THE FOUR MILE RUN,  
HUNTING CREEK AND NEABSCO CREEK EMBAYMENTS**



**A Staff Technical Analysis**

**Prepared for  
STATE WATER CONTROL BOARD**

**Prepared by  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**with Technical Assistance Provided by  
CAMP DRESSER & MCKEE**

**JUNE 30, 1988**

## 10.0 FINAL WLA ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS FOR NEABSCO CREEK

### 10.1 EMBAYMENT DESIGN CONDITIONS

In addition to the established low flow and high temperature design conditions, three other conditions are set for the final analysis of the WLA alternatives. They include: Potomac Estuary boundary conditions, benthic flux rates, and discharge location.

Changes to the Potomac Estuary boundary chlorophyll-a concentration from 80 ug/L (design conditions) to 100 and 50 ug/L did not significantly impact the daily minimum or minimum daily average DO concentrations which occurred for the most part in the uppermost segments of Neabsco Creek. These changes were analyzed with the Interim Control Decision with and without nitrification. The 80 ug/L chlorophyll-a goal for the downstream zone is violated only when a Potomac Estuary boundary of 100 ug/L is assumed, and the violation occurs regardless of the total phosphorus effluent concentration for the three WWTPs that discharge to Neabsco Creek. The chlorophyll-a goal of 30 ug/L in the upstream zone 2 is not exceeded for the increased boundary condition of 100 ug/L. Therefore, the design chlorophyll-a boundary concentration of 80 ug/L at the Potomac Estuary is used for the final analysis.

Benthic flux rates for ammonia and SOD were analyzed for  $\pm$  30 percent of the calibrated values. The embayment response of dissolved oxygen concentrations was not sensitive to these changes in benthic flux rates and thus the calibrated rates are used in the final analysis.

The sensitivity of the embayment water quality to different treatment plant locations was performed for the Mooney treatment plant. Different locations for the Dale City treatment plants were not analyzed. The analysis showed that the upstream discharge location reduced the daily minimum and minimum daily average dissolved oxygen concentrations below the values at the present discharge location. At the upstream location the daily average dissolved oxygen standard was violated. The minimum

dissolved oxygen values at the downstream location were similar to the values at the present discharge location. Therefore, the final analysis includes wasteload allocation investigations at the present discharge location for the Mooney wastewater treatment plant.

In summary, the final alternatives are analyzed with the design Potomac Estuary boundary condition, calibrated benthic flux rates and at the present discharge location.

## 10.2 WLA ALTERNATIVES

The wasteload allocation alternatives include the following:

1. Interim Control Decision without nitrification (TP = 0.18 mg/L), and
2. Interim Control Decision without nitrification with an effluent total phosphorus of 1.0 mg/L.

Alternatives 1 and 2 are selected based on the results of the sensitivity study. Table 10-1 presents the effluent concentrations for the two WLA alternatives. The alternatives only differ in the total phosphorus concentrations which are presented in the table as organic phosphorus and orthophosphorus.

The impact of the two wasteload allocation alternatives on the dissolved oxygen and chlorophyll-a in the embayment are presented in Table 10-2. The state's dissolved oxygen standards and the chlorophyll-a goals established as part of this study are met by both alternatives. At a discharge of 20.0 mgd for Mooney and 6.0 mgd for the two Dale City plants combined, the minimum daily average DO is 5.3 mg/L and the daily minimum DO is 4.6 mg/L for both alternatives. The Interim Control Decision alternatives are modeled with a CBODS of 10.0 mg/L, ammonia of 20.0 mg/L and dissolved oxygen of 6.0 mg/L.

TABLE 10-1  
EFFLUENT CONCENTRATIONS OF WLA ALTERNATIVES

WLA Alternatives	Q (mgd)	Effluent Concentration (mg/L)						
		Org. N	NH3	NO2+ NO3	Org. P	Ortho-P	CBOD5	DO
MOONEY, DALE CITY 1 AND 8 <sup>1</sup> (Neabsco Creek)								
1. Interim Control Decision Without Nitrification (TP = 0.18 mg/L)								
Mooney	20.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.02	0.16	10.0	6.0
Dale City 1 and 8	6.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.02	0.16	10.0	6.0
2. Interim Control Decision Without Nitrification with TP = 1.0 mg/L								
Mooney	20.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.10	0.90	10.0	6.0
Dale City 1 and 8	6.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.10	0.90	10.0	6.0

<sup>1</sup> With design Potomac Estuary boundary conditions, calibrated benthic flux rates and at existing discharge locations.



TABLE 10-2  
NEABSCO CREEK  
WATER QUALITY MODEL PROJECTIONS FOR WLA ALTERNATIVES

WLA Alternative	DO (mg/l)		CHLA (ug/l)	
	Daily Minimum	Min. Daily Avg.	Zone 1	Zone 2
			Max. Daily Avg.	Max. Daily Avg.
1. Interim Control Decision Without Nitrification (TP=0.18 mg/L)	4.6(5) <sup>1</sup>	5.3(2)	75(10)	17(5)
2. Interim Control Decision Without Nitrification and TP=1.0 mg/L	4.6(5)	5.3(2)	76(10)	18(5)

<sup>1</sup> Numbers in parenthesis denote location of constituent concentration by model segment.

The maximum daily average chlorophyll-a concentrations in the downstream zone 1 are dominated by the Potomac main stem boundary condition of 80 ug/L. The different alternative phosphorus concentrations in the plant discharge do not have a significant impact on the chlorophyll-a concentrations in the downstream reaches. For an increase of total phosphorus from 0.18 mg/L to 1.0 mg/L, the maximum daily average chlorophyll-a of zone 1 increases from 75 ug/L to 76 ug/L. These values are below the 80 ug/L chlorophyll-a goal for zone 1. In the upstream zone 2, the increase in total phosphorus from alternative number 1 to alternative number 2 only increases the maximum daily average chlorophyll-a from 17 ug/L to 18 ug/L. These concentrations are below the 30 ug/L chlorophyll-a limit established for zone 2.

#### 10.3 POLLUTANT FLUX TO THE POTOMAC MAIN STEM

The net fluxes of ammonia, BOD and total phosphorus from the embayment to the Potomac main stem are determined for the WLA alternatives. For each of the three constituents Table 10-3 presents the WWTP load, the net flux due to the WWTP and the percent of the WWTP load exported to the Potomac. For both alternatives about 90 percent of the WWTP ammonia load is exported to the Potomac main stem, and almost 50 percent of the WWTP BOD load is exported. For the two different total phosphorus loads (TP=0.18 mg/L for alternative number 1 and TP=1.0 mg/L for alternative number 2) the amount of the WWTP load exported to the Potomac main stem is about 45 percent.

#### 10.4 SEASONAL NITRIFICATION

Under the summer design conditions, nitrification was not required for the Mooney and the two Dale City wastewater treatment plants to meet the State's dissolved oxygen standards for Neabsco Creek. Therefore, an evaluation of seasonal nitrification is not required.

TABLE 10-3  
NEABSCO CREEK  
POTOMAC MAIN STEM FLUX PROJECTIONS FOR WLA ALTERNATIVES

Constituent	WWTP Load		Net Flux Due to WWTP (kg/day)	Percent of WWTP Load to Potomac
	(mg/L)	(kg/day)		
Ammonia-N (Without Nitrification)	19.2 <sup>1</sup>	1,890	1,730	91
CBODU (CBOD5 = 10.0 mg/L)	26.2 <sup>1</sup>	2,580	1,220	47
Total Phosphorus (0.18 mg/L)	0.18	18	8.4	47
Total Phosphorus (1.0 mg/L)	1.0	99	40.9	42

<sup>1</sup>WWTP load values reflect ammonia and BOD decay for Dale City WWTP's and thus are slightly less than the normal 20.0 mg/L for ammonia and 27.0 mg/L for CBODU

## 10.5 SEASONAL PHOSPHORUS REMOVAL

The potential for phosphorus accumulation within the embayments during months when stringent treatment standards are not imposed is evaluated for the Mooney and Dale City WWTs. A specific methodology has been developed to consider winter accumulation and summer release of phosphorus from the benthos for the point source contribution only. The overall approach assumes that the WWT phosphorus which settles out during the winter months is released back into the water column during the summer months at the same rate. Studies have shown that phosphorus can accumulate for several years and then can be released at a high rate during special conditions. To predict long term settling and periodic release is beyond the scope of this study. Therefore the daily accumulation of phosphorus is translated to a release rate which is applied to the low flow, high temperature, design conditions. The analysis is conducted using the calibrated model and does not consider extreme events such as anoxic conditions or very low pH which may release more phosphorus than under normal equilibrium conditions. The calibrated Neabsco Creek model has organic P and ortho-P settling rates but does not have calibrated benthic organic P nor ortho-P release rates.

The design condition for this analysis includes an average annual inflow rate for the headwater and incremental flows during the winter time simulation. For this simulation the dissolved oxygen of the upstream and Potomac Estuary boundaries is set at 9.2 mg/L, one mg/L less than saturation at the design temperature of 15 C. The winter time analysis does not include the simulation of algae.

In order to determine the effect of relaxing a more stringent total phosphorus allocation to a less stringent concentration in the winter months, two wasteload scenarios are selected for the analysis which includes a TP = 0.18 mg/L and a TP = 1.0 mg/L for the Interim Control Decision without nitrification. The following approach is conducted. First, the TP = 0.18 mg/L is considered a base line case. The effluent organic phosphorus and orthophosphorus load for the TP = 0.18 mg/L case is subtracted from the corresponding loads for the TP = 1.0 mg/L case to demonstrate the differential load between the two effluent cases. The

total fluxes of the organic P and ortho-P to the Potomac Estuary are calculated for the two cases and the differences are computed to produce the differential load exported to the Potomac Estuary. Now, the difference of these differential loads (treatment plant effluent and flux) is the amount of phosphorus accumulated in the embayment from settling due to the treatment plant discharge of 1.0 mg/L where 0.18 mg/L is considered the base case.

For the Mooney and Dale City WWTPs, the incremental organic P and ortho-P are 8.1 kg/d and 72.7 kg/d, respectively. The incremental organic P and ortho-P fluxes to the Potomac are 3.6 kg/d and 38.0 kg/d, respectively. Therefore, the incremental phosphorus accumulation is 4.5 kg/d for organic P and 34.7 kg/d for ortho-P.

The organic P and ortho-P accumulation rates are then applied to the model during the summer time design condition as release rates. The benthic phosphorus release rates are distributed to reaches 2 through 11 in proportion to the SOD rates which are used to indicate the distribution of settled constituents from the treatment plant discharges.

Two cases are considered. For the first, the accumulated organic P and ortho-P are both released separately as  $\text{g/m}^2/\text{day}$  in the model. The organic P release rate is  $0.003 \text{ g/m}^2/\text{day}$ , and the ortho-P release rate is  $0.023 \text{ g/m}^2/\text{day}$ . A maximum average daily chlorophyll-a concentration of 76  $\mu\text{g/L}$  occurs in the downstream zone 1. In the upstream zone 2, 18  $\mu\text{g/L}$  is predicted to occur during the summer with the additional benthic phosphorus releases.

For the second and more conservative case, the winter accumulated organic P and ortho-P are released as all ortho-P during the summer. The release rate is  $0.026 \text{ g/m}^2/\text{day}$ . The maximum daily average chlorophyll-a concentrations in zone 1 (76  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) and zone 2 (18  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) are the same as those for the first case. These maximum daily average chlorophyll-a concentrations with the additional phosphorus releases are only 1  $\mu\text{g/L}$  greater than the chlorophyll-a concentration produced without the estimated increase.

## 10.7 RECOMMENDED WASTELOAD ALLOCATION

Rationale  
for a  
WQ-based  
Weekly  
Avg Max  
limit  
Apr-Oct

The State's dissolved oxygen standards are not predicted to be violated for a CBOD5 of 10.0 mg/l and an ammonia concentration of 20.0 mg/L. Therefore the Interim Control Decision with a CBOD5 of 10.0 mg/L and without nitrification is recommended. A total phosphorus effluent concentration of 1.0 mg/L is not predicted to violate the chlorophyll-a goal of 80 ug/L in Zone 1 and 30 ug/L in Zone 2.

In order to meet the State's dissolved oxygen standard and the embayment's chlorophyll-a management goals, the recommended effluent limits for a 20 mgd discharge for the H.L. Mooney WTP, a 4 mgd discharge for the Dale City plant #1 and a 2 mgd discharge for the Dale City plant #8 are as follows:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Effluent Limit</u>
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	6.0 mg/L year-round
5-day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5)	10.0 mg/L year-round
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)	No nitrification required
Total Phosphorus (TP)	1.0 mg/L*

Within the embayment, the chlorophyll-a goals are not predicted to be violated for an effluent total phosphorus concentration of 1.0 mg/L. To protect the main stem of the Potomac Estuary, an interim total phosphorus limit of 0.18 mg/L is regionally accepted as presented in the Interim Control Policy of the 1986 208 Plan Supplement (Wash. COG, 1986). Therefore, at the present time, the more restrictive limit on total phosphorus is the 0.18 mg/L for protection of the main stem Potomac. As indicated in the 208 Plan Supplement, future long-term Potomac Studies being mutually undertaken by COG, the states and EPA will better define the total phosphorus limits required for Potomac main stem protection.

\*The effluent limit is based on the simulation of the low-flow, high-temperature design conditions. Future studies that evaluate effluent constraints for the main stem of the Potomac will consider the feasibility of seasonal phosphorus removal standards.

5/8/2014 7:31:47 AM

Facility = HL Mooney  
Chemical = Ammonia (Nov-January)  
Chronic averaging period = 30  
WLAa = 31.62  
WLAc = 11.05  
Q.L. = .2  
# samples/mo. = 30  
# samples/wk. = 8

Summary of Statistics:

# observations = 1  
Expected Value = 9  
Variance = 29.16  
C.V. = 0.6  
97th percentile daily values = 21.9007  
97th percentile 4 day average = 14.9741  
97th percentile 30 day average = 10.8544  
# < Q.L. = 0  
Model used = BPJ Assumptions, type 2 data

No Limit is required for this material

The data are:

9

5/8/2014 7:34:01 AM

Facility = HL Mooney  
Chemical = Ammonia (February-March)  
Chronic averaging period = 30  
WLAa = 13.5  
WLAc = 4.51  
Q.L. = .2  
# samples/mo. = 30  
# samples/wk. = 8

Summary of Statistics:

# observations = 1  
Expected Value = 9  
Variance = 29.16  
C.V. = 0.6  
97th percentile daily values = 21.9007  
97th percentile 4 day average = 14.9741  
97th percentile 30 day average = 10.8544  
# < Q.L. = 0  
Model used = BPJ Assumptions, type 2 data

A limit is needed based on Chronic Toxicity  
Maximum Daily Limit = 9.09969212130756  
Average Weekly limit = 5.42801263050433  
Average Monthly Limit = 4.51

The data are:



5/8/2014 7:57:31 AM

Facility = HL Mooney

Chemical = Ammonia (Feb - March) using MSTRANT1 from 2009

Chronic averaging period = 30

WLAa = 13.357

WLAc = 4.332

Q.L. = .2

# samples/mo. = 30

# samples/wk. = 8

Note: MSTRANT1 WLAs are only 2 significant figures so the Facility's WLAs (calculated with the dilution factor) are lower.

#### Summary of Statistics:

# observations = 1

Expected Value = 9

Variance = 29.16

C.V. = 0.6

97th percentile daily values = 21.9007

97th percentile 4 day average = 14.9741

97th percentile 30 day average = 10.8544

# < Q.L. = 0

Model used = BPJ Assumptions, type 2 data

A limit is needed based on Chronic Toxicity

Maximum Daily Limit = 8.74054684467946

Average Weekly limit = 5.21378064641791

Average Monthly Limit = 4.332

The data are:

7/2/2014 12:44:44 PM

Facility = HL Mooney  
Chemical = Ammonia as N (Apr-Oct)  
Chronic averaging period = 30  
WLAa = 7.74  
WLAc = 3.42  
Q.L. = .2  
# samples/mo. = 30  
# samples/wk. = 8

Summary of Statistics:

# observations = 1  
Expected Value = 9  
Variance = 29.16  
C.V. = 0.6  
97th percentile daily values = 21.9007  
97th percentile 4 day average = 14.9741  
97th percentile 30 day average = 10.8544  
# < Q.L. = 0  
Model used = BPJ Assumptions, type 2 data

A limit is needed based on Chronic Toxicity  
Maximum Daily Limit = 6.90043171948378  
Average Weekly limit = 4.11614261559309  
Average Monthly Limit = 3.42

The data are:

5/1/2014 10:07:42 AM

Facility = H.L. Mooney  
Chemical = Toxicity - P. promelas  
Chronic averaging period = 4  
WLAa = 6  
WLAc = 2.39  
Q.L. = 1  
# samples/mo. = 1  
# samples/wk. = 1

Summary of Statistics:

# observations = 12  
Expected Value = 1  
Variance = 0  
C.V. = 0  
97th percentile daily values = 1  
97th percentile 4 day average = 1  
97th percentile 30 day average = 1  
# < Q.L. = 0  
Model used = lognormal

No Limit is required for this material

The data are:

1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1

5/1/2014 10:06:57 AM

Facility = H.L. Mooney  
Chemical = Toxicity - C. dubia  
Chronic averaging period = 4  
WLAa = 6  
WLAc = 2.39  
Q.L. = 1  
# samples/mo. = 1  
# samples/wk. = 1

#### Summary of Statistics:

# observations = 12  
Expected Value = 1  
Variance = 0  
C.V. = 0  
97th percentile daily values = 1  
97th percentile 4 day average = 1  
97th percentile 30 day average = 1  
# < Q.L. = 0  
Model used = lognormal

No Limit is required for this material

The data are:

1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1

# MEMORANDUM

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Northern Regional Office

13901 Crown Court

Woodbridge, VA 22193

(703) 583-3800

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**SUBJECT:** TOXICS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (TMP) DATA REVIEW  
H.L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Works (VA0025101)  
**REVIEWER:** Douglas Frasier  
**DATE:** 12 November 2013

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**PREVIOUS REVIEW:** 12 October 2012

### DATA REVIEWED:

This review covers the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) annual acute and chronic toxicity tests conducted in August 2013 at Outfall 001.

### DISCUSSION:

The results of these toxicity tests, along with the results of previous toxicity tests conducted since 1998 on effluent samples collected from Outfall 001, are summarized in Table 1.

The acute toxicity of the effluent sample was determined with a static 48-hour acute toxicity test using *C. dubia* and *P. promelas* as the test species. The acute test yielded for both species a No Observed Adverse Effect Concentration (NOAEC) of 100% effluent; thus passing the acute toxicity criterion.

The chronic toxicity of the effluent samples was determined with a static daily renewal 3-brood survival and reproduction test using *C. dubia* and a static daily renewal 7-day survival and growth test using *P. promelas*. Both toxicity tests yielded a No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) of 100% effluent; passing the chronic toxicity criteria.

### CONCLUSIONS:

The acute and chronic toxicity tests are valid and the results are acceptable. The test results indicate that the effluent samples exhibit no acute or chronic toxicity for the test species.

# BIOMONITORING RESULTS

## H.L. Mooney Wastewater Treatment Works (VA0025101)

Table 1  
Summary of Toxicity Test Results for Outfall 001

TEST DATE	TEST TYPE/ORGANISM	48-h LC <sub>50</sub> (%)	IC <sub>25</sub> (%)	NOAEC /NOEC (%)	% SURV	TU <sub>s</sub>	TU <sub>c</sub>	REMARKS
6/25/98	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	66.6			5			1st quarterly
6/25/98	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			100			
6/23/98	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>			10 SR	0			
6/23/98	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>			100 SG	90			
11/5/98	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100			100			2nd quarterly
11/5/98	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			100			
11/3/98	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>			100 SR	100			
11/3/98	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>			100 SG	100			
3/23/99	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100			100			3rd quarterly
3/23/99	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			100			
3/20/99	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>			100 SR	100			
3/20/99	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>			100 SG	100			
6/29/99	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100			100			4th quarterly
6/29/99	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			95			
6/24/99	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>			100 SR	100			
6/24/99	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>			100 SG	95			
11/9/99	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100			100			1 <sup>st</sup> annual
11/4/99	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>			Invalid				30% mortality in control group
11/18/99	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>			100 SR	100			Retest
10/31/00	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100			100			2nd annual
10/31/00	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			100			
10/26/00	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>			100 SR	90			
10/26/00	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>			100 SG	98			
08/28/01	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	85.5			40			3rd annual
08/28/01	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			100			
08/23/01	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	77.8	100 S 39.17 R	90			
08/23/01	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	98			
10/16/01	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100			100			Retest
10/16/01	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			100			
10/13/01	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100			
10/11/01	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	100			3 minnows lost in test
08/27/02	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100			100			4th annual
08/27/02	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			95	0		

TEST DATE	TEST TYPE/ORGANISM	48-h LC <sub>50</sub> (%)	IC <sub>25</sub> (%)	NOAEC /NOEC (%)	% SURV	TU <sub>a</sub>	TU <sub>c</sub>	REMARKS
08/22/02	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	50			Control survival 80%
08/22/02	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	88			
07/24/03	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100			100			5th annual
07/24/03	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100			100			
07/22/03	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	90			
07/22/03	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	100			
<b>Permit Reissued October 15, 2003</b>								
11/20/03	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	85	1		1st annual
11/20/03	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
11/18/03	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
11/18/03	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	100		1	
04/14/05	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		2nd annual
04/14/05	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
04/12/05	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
04/12/05	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	58	1 SG	68		100	
06/21/05	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		3 <sup>rd</sup> annual
06/21/05	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
06/16/05	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
06/16/05	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	100		1	
06/13/06	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		
06/13/06	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
06/08/06	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>							INVALID
06/08/06	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	100		1	
08/16/07	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		4 <sup>th</sup> annual
08/16/07	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
08/14/07	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
08/14/07	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	100		1	
02/14/08	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		
02/14/08	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
02/12/08	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
02/12/08	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	98		1	
08/07/08	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		5 <sup>th</sup> annual
08/07/08	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
08/05/08	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	80% survival for control
08/05/08	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	93		1	
<b>Permit Reissued 1 July 2009</b>								
09/24/09	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	95	1		1 <sup>st</sup> annual
09/24/09	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		

TEST DATE	TEST TYPE/ORGANISM	48-h LC <sub>50</sub> (%)	IC <sub>25</sub> (%)	NOAEC /NOEC (%)	% SURV	TU <sub>a</sub>	TU <sub>c</sub>	REMARKS
09/22/09	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 S <b>10 R</b>	100		10	
09/22/09	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	98		1	
CTO Issued for the 24 MGD Plant 8 November 2010								
11/02/10	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		1 <sup>st</sup> quarter
11/02/10	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
10/28/10	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
10/28/10	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	100		1	
04/19/11	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter
04/28/11	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
04/14/11	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
04/14/11	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	98		1	
06/23/11	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter
06/23/11	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
06/21/11	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
06/21/11	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	98		1	
12/08/11	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	95	1		4 <sup>th</sup> quarter
12/08/11	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
12/06/11	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
12/06/11	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	100		1	
08/02/12	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	100	1		1 <sup>st</sup> annual
08/02/12	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
07/31/12	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
07/31/12	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	98		1	
08/22/13	Acute <i>C. dubia</i>	>100		100	90	1		2 <sup>nd</sup> annual
08/22/13	Acute <i>P. promelas</i>	>100		100	100	1		
08/20/13	Chronic <i>C. dubia</i>	>100	>100	100 SR	100		1	
08/20/13	Chronic <i>P. promelas</i>	>100	>100	100 SG	95		1	

FOOTNOTES:

A bold faced value for LC<sub>50</sub> or NOEC indicates that the test failed the criteria.

ABBREVIATIONS:

S - Survival; R - Reproduction; G - Growth  
 % SURV – Percent survival in 100% effluent  
 EA - EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc.



Jan-Dec 2012	January-12	February-12	March-12	April-12	May-12	June-12	July-12
As	28.2	29.1	24.7	<10.0	27.7	30.7	<4.00
Be	0.61	0.65	0.38	0.53	<0.20	<0.20	0.29
Cd	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0
Cr	21.7	25.3	21.4	28.1	20.1	24.2	21.4
Cu	108	111	83.9	165	144	158	145
Pb	16.6	11.6	9.50	12.1	8.80	7.48	9.15
Hg	0.23	0.27	0.20	0.15	0.40	0.41	0.28
Mo	<4.0	7.01	<4.00	5.42	4.88	5.41	4.10
Ni	6.12	5.66	4.93	5.90	5.78	6.43	6.36
Se	<4.0	19.0	<4.0	<4.0	<4.0	<4.0	<4.00
Zn	315	324	251	345	356	394	373
Fe							
V*							
%TS						27.70%	28.10%
Total Solids							

	August-12	September-12	October-12	Nov 2012	Dec 12
As	<20.0	19.4	<11.0	<11.0	14
Be	<0.400	0.262	<0.20	<0.20	<0.40
Cd	<2.0	<2.0	<1.9	2.3	2.4
Cr	13.5	15.1	14	15	21
Cu	112	156	127	121	124
Pb	<20.0	11.9	17	21	23
Hg	<0.0250	0.222	0.69	0.31	0.40
Mo	4.16	5.38	7	9	17
Ni	5.56	7.04	8	9	8
Se	<20.0	<10.0*	4.4	4.4	5.7
Zn	339	434	422	385	401
Fe			27200	27000	30200
Total Solids	24.80%	28.40%	26.40%	26.60%	27.00%
%TS					

\*\* All units are mg/kg

\* Sample reanalyzed by HRSD

Result= 4.3

# Sludge Cake Analysis 2013

Collection Date:	January 01/07/13	February 02/06/13	March 03/11/13	April 04/09/13	May 05/07/13	June 06/07/13	July 07/11/13	August 08/01/13	Sept 09/04/13
As	<12	<12	<11	<11	<12	<11	4.0	3.0	4.0
Be	0.311	0.277	0.266	<0.200	<0.200	0.703	<0.2000	<0.2000	<0.2000
Cd	<1.9	2.4	2.2	1.8	<2.0	<1.8	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0
Cr	20	23	26	22	22	32	35	36	40
Cu	100	109	88	93	96	166	159	137	171
Pb	19	26	28	21.0	15	19	15	13	14
Hg	0.32	0.24	0.17	0.23	0.23	0.49	0.40	0.5	0.5
Mo	13	15	14	11	14	17	<5	<5	<5
Ni	6	7	7	5	6	8	8	8	10
Se	5.5	5.6	3.5	4.6	4.9	3.2	<5.0	<5.0	5.0
Zn	370	375	361	330	344	459	546	532	526
Fe	29300	30100	32700	25700	26600	32500	38800	++++	++++
V*	-----	7.66	8.40	9.10	7.12	8.86	8.91	9.10	5.34
Total Solids	26.80%	24.70%	26.70%	27.30%	24.80%	28.1%	27.00%	25.25%	26.90%

\* Began analyzing monthly 2/13 at Analytics Corporation

\*\* All units are mg/kg

\*\*\* Beryllium analyzed at Analytics Corporation

\*\*\*\* All other metals analyzed at HRSD

Nickel reanalyzed by HRSD. Originally reported 121 mg/kg

++++ Analyzed Iron per request of Steve Bennet, ceased analysis 8/13

Beginning in July 2013 All metals with the exception of Be and V were analyzed at A&L Laboratories

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a water body in Prince William, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: XXX, 2014 to XXX, 2014

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit – Wastewater issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Prince William County Service Authority, PO Box 2266, Woodbridge, VA 22195, VA0025101

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY: HL Mooney Advanced Water Reclamation Facility, 1851 Rippon Blvd, Woodbridge, VA 22191

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: NAME OF APPLICANT has applied for a reissuance of a permit for the public HL Mooney Advanced Water Reclamation Facility. The applicant proposes to release treated sewage wastewaters from residential and commercial areas at a rate of 24 million gallons per day into a water body. The sludge will be disposed by one of the following methods: incineration, disposal at an approved landfill, land application by an approved contractor, or composting at a permitted facility. The facility proposes to release the treated sewage in the Neabsco Creek in Prince William County in the Potomac watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. The permit will limit the following pollutants to amounts that protect water quality: pH, cBOD, Total Suspended Solids, Total Nitrogen, *E. coli*, Ammonia as N, Dissolved Oxygen, and Total Phosphorus. The facility shall also monitor without limitation the following parameters: Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Nitrate+Nitrite, and Whole Effluent Toxicity.

This facility is subject to the requirements of 9VAC25-820 and has registered for coverage under the General VPDES Watershed Permit Regulation for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus Discharges and Nutrient Trading in the Chesapeake Watershed in Virginia.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by hand-delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ-Northern Regional Office by appointment, or may request electronic copies of the draft permit and fact sheet.

Name: Alison Thompson

Address: DEQ-Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193

Phone: (703) 583-3834 E-mail: [Alison.Thompson@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Alison.Thompson@deq.virginia.gov) Fax: (703) 583-3821